

# THE Hongkong Weekly Press

AND

## China Overland Trade Report.

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### BIRTH.

On the 9th October, at Craigieburn, North Finchley, the wife of SYDNEY A. BALLANCE, of a son.

### DEATHS.

On the 28th September, at his residence, No. 1, Nakayamate dori, Nichome, Kobe, Captain JOHN WYNN.

At the C. I. M. Sanitarium, Chefoo, on the 5th October, Rev. A. W. DOUTHWAITH, M.D., of the China Inland Mission, aged 52 years.

At the General Hospital, Shanghai, on the 5th October, of typhoid fever, Dr. WALDEMAR PETERSEN, of the Deutsch Asiatische Bank, aged 25 years.

At Hamburg, on the 11th October, in his 69th year, Mr. F. SANDER, late of Hongkong.

### ARRIVAL OF MAILS.

The American mail of the 12th September arrived, per T. K. K. steamer *Nippon Maru*, on the 11th October (29 days); and the French mail of the 8th September arrived, per M. M. steamer *Sydney*, on the 14th October (35 days).

### EPITOME OF THE WEEK.

It is stated in Japanese papers that the Japanese Government is ready to give all possible assistance to the Siamese Government in its conversion from a silver to a gold currency.

The funeral of the late Rev. Dr. Faber took place at Taintan on the 27th September and was attended by H. R. H. Prince Henry, the Governor of the colony, the officers of the garrison, and a large number of friends.

Siam is taking steps to improve her postal system. The department is already controlled by a Director-General, a German gentleman named Collmann, and three other Germans have just been engaged to assist him.

Kwangchowwan is undergoing an experience similar to that of Hongkong in the early days. Since the French took possession they have buried there one officer, one sergeant, three sailors, five soldiers of the marine infantry, and four riflemen. The turning over of the soil for public improvements causes a severe type of malarial fever.

We learn that the tides at Taku have been very poor and there has been so little water in the reaches that most of the Taku Tug and Lighter Company's lighters were ashore and the Company was consequently unable to supply the steamers. Detention has been considerable there, and the China Merchants' steamer *Hacan* had to come away without her freight. —N. C. Daily News.

Telegraphic information has been received in Shanghai of a riot at Eokou in Kiangse. The C.I.M. Station at that place was destroyed, but all the missionaries are safe. The adjoining stations of Kweichow and Iyang were reported as undisturbed. The wire was forwarded from Lanchi, which is distant some five days from Hoku. No further particulars are yet to hand. —N. C. Daily News.

Liu Hsiao-hsun, one of the Empress Dowager's secret emissaries to Japan, left Shanghai for Peking to report personally to his mistress by the China Merchants' steamer *Chiyuen*. The promptitude with which the Imperial commands were obeyed is attributed to the presence of an aide de camp of Viceroy Liu who had been sent to superintend Liu's departure to the North. His partner, Ching K'uan, left some time before Liu and is doubtless already in Peking. —N. C. Daily News.

Much anxiety was felt in Hongkong during the past week regarding the fate of the French mail steamer *Sydney*, which left Saigon at 1 p.m. on Thursday, the 5th October, and had not arrived up to the night of Thursday, the 12th. Corresponding relief was experienced when the vessel was seen steaming into the harbour at half-past six on Friday morning. She had met with an accident to her machinery, one of her shaft bearings breaking, and she anchored off Hoihow to effect temporary repairs.

The *Kokumin* tells the story of a naturalised Englishman, who since 1898 has been a constable in the Bonin Islands. He is named Henry Webb, and was born in the islands in March 1870. His father, whose name is Thomas H. Webb, arrived there a long time ago, with his wife, and engaged in extensive explorations for many years, during which he had several children. Henry Webb was a third son, and soon after his birth his father became a Japanese subject. The young man came up to Tokyo on business a few days ago and was interviewed by Mr. Oura, Superintendent of the Metropolitan Police Board. He is known to Japanese as "Uyebu" Henry. —Kobe Herald.

We (*Japan Times*) understand that the Japanese Government has practically decided to give a guarantee to the Fusan-Seoul Railway undertaking and that an item on this account will probably be inserted in the Budget for the coming year. The limit of guarantee will be 6 per cent.

The Hongkong Estimates for 1900 were introduced at a meeting of the Legislative Council on the 11th October. The position disclosed was such that H. E. the Governor felt himself able to congratulate the colony on its abounding prosperity. It is estimated that the present year will close with a surplus of \$400,000.

We deeply regret to announce the death of Lieut Commander Ion Barton, of H.B.M.'s river gunboat *Woodcock*. The gallant young officer had only quite recently returned from a most successful survey trip into the Tungting lake and up the Siangtang river as far as Changsha, his vessel being the first foreign craft to reach that place. Commander Barton came of a fighting family—the Irish Bartons,—most of his relatives being either soldiers or sailors, and he was rightly regarded as one of the most promising officers on the China station. He died at Hankow, from abscess on the liver. —China Gazette.

The *Shanghai Daily Press* of the 3rd October says:—Among the passengers by the steamer *Hsinchi*, which arrived from Tientsin shortly before noon yesterday, were Mr. G. H. Kingswell, of the Yangtze Corporation, and Mr. W. H. Shockley, of the Peking Syndicate. The former has been through Mongolia, and the country lying to the north of the Great Wall, while the latter, who is shortly proceeding to England, has for the past seven months been engaged on a mineral survey in the provinces of Shensi and Shansi. Upon the reports of these gentlemen will mainly depend how much British capital is to be invested in the north, and we trust that they have seen something which will justify the high reputation which China is assuming among the mineral countries of the world.

A Roman Catholic church was opened at Kiukiang the other day, and after the ceremony a luncheon was held at the mission house. Amongst the guests were M. Dantremere, French Consul at Hankow, Mr. Brady, British Consul, and Mr. Hughes, Commissioner of Customs. One of the toasts was proposed by Mr. Brady, who spoke in French, which appears to have afforded much satisfaction, at least to the correspondent of our Shanghai contemporary the *Echo de Chine*, who refers to it as an "acte de haute courtoisie qui a été apprécié de tous." In concluding his account the correspondent writes:—I will, however, allow myself one last reflection. To us Frenchmen, exiled on the Yangtze, it has been a genuine pleasure to see foreigners participating with so much cordiality and affability in the fête given by our missionaries. It makes us ask ourselves if all the friction to which this famous question of the Yangtze Valley gives rise will not some day be overcome. For my part I am persuaded that it will not be long before an understanding is arrived at. What is necessary for this? Simply that each shall recognise that there is in the Yangtze Valley room for all, even for the Chinese.



## THE GOVERNOR'S SPEECH ON THE CONDITION OF THE COLONY.

(Daily Press, 12th October.)

The GOVERNOR in introducing the Estimates yesterday congratulated the Legislative Council on the abounding prosperity of the colony. His Excellency's optimistic views appear to be fully warranted by facts. Shipping shows a substantial increase, all branches of trade appear to be in a sound condition, and it is estimated that the revenue for the present year will show a surplus over expenditure of \$400,000, which, His Excellency intimates, will justify a liberal programme with respect to public works. This is an especially satisfactory point in the speech, and it is to be hoped that no obstruction to the execution of much needed projects will be offered by the Colonial Office. But although trade generally is flourishing the disturbed state of the southern provinces and the piracy on the West River have restricted operations in our immediate neighbourhood. His Excellency appears to be fully alive to the importance of this matter and supports the view of Mr. R. M. GRAY, the Chairman the Chamber of Commerce, that the best protection to the interests of this Colony would be the faithful carrying out by the Chinese Government of the Agreement made with Her Majesty's Minister at Peking for the opening of the West River under the Inland Steam Navigation Regulations as first proposed and agreed upon. It is to be hoped that the Governor's representations to the Secretary of State on this point may be fruitful of good results.

One of the most interesting and important passages in the speech is that referring to the plague and the question of sanitation. So far His Excellency has not been credited with exceptional zeal in the performance of his official duties. He informs us, however, that when the recent epidemic of plague was at its height he satisfied himself by frequent personal inspection that the scavengers and the sanitary staff were doing their duty. Personal inspections of that kind conducted by the head of the executive are highly commendable. His Excellency's further remarks show that he has taken a keen interest in the subject. Unfortunately, like everyone else, His Excellency has found himself baffled in his efforts to arrive at the real cause of the repeated epidemics and of their persistency. He says he found "the streets and lanes were perfectly clean, and whole streets filled with furniture while the houses were being lime-washed and disinfected bore evidence to the activity of the sanitary staff. Yet nothing seemed to stay the onward progress of the plague, until at last it has died out in the usual course, having lingered here rather longer than in other cities of South China where no such precautions were taken." His remark that if we can decide upon the causes no expenditure within the reach of the colony would be too great to secure the blessing of freedom from such a scourge will be heartily endorsed by the ratepayers, as also will be his qualification that in considering legislation on the subject the Council should be in possession of facts on which to form an opinion rather than be guided by assumptions that, however strongly held, afford no sound basis on which measures should be adopted involving probably very large expense to the colony. The salient fact in the case seems to be that the city is densely overcrowded. As in this respect, as also in respect of latrine accommodation, we compare unfavourably with the neighbouring

Chinese cities which have been visited by plague, whereas in other respects our conditions are on the whole more favourable, it seems a fair inference that the reason the epidemic has been more persistent here is to be looked for either in the overcrowding on the defective latrine accommodation or a combination of the two. Any remedial measures that can be taken, however, must be regarded as more or less of an experimental character, and in order to ensure the cordial co-operation of the community it is desirable that the ratepayers should be allowed a voice in the matter through duly elected members of the Sanitary Board. It is satisfactory to learn from the reply given to one of the Hon. T. H. WHITEHEAD's questions that the expediency of restoring its legal constitution to the Sanitary Board is now being taken into consideration by His Excellency. It would have been still more satisfactory if an announcement had been made to the effect that a decision had already been arrived at that the ratepayers were no longer to be debarred from the exercise of their legal rights in this matter.

## THE NEW TERRITORY AND THE CUSTOMS QUESTION.

(Daily Press, 13th October.)

The statement with respect to the New Territory made by H.E. the Governor in his speech at the Legislative Council on Wednesday did not embody much that was new and it omitted reference to some points upon which the public would have been glad to have received information. His Excellency says it was assumed that the knowledge of the just treatment of the Chinese inhabitants of Hongkong and British Kowloon would induce the population of the leased area to accept the jurisdiction of Great Britain with equanimity, if not with pleasure, and that had it been possible to take over the possession immediately this assumption might have been verified. But there were what His Excellency terms unavoidable delays, one cause of delay being that there was an unfortunate misconception on the part of the Chinese Government as to the effect of the Convention upon the position of the Chinese Imperial Customs authorities who had hitherto exercised jurisdiction within the leased area, and at the earnest request of Her Majesty's Minister in Peking the taking over of the Territory was deferred until the 17th April. Presumably, therefore, His Excellency considers Sir CLAUDE MACDONALD responsible for the delay, as in part he would seem to be, but that does not wholly excuse the local Government. It ought to have been known that disturbances were being promoted, and in order to anticipate them occupation should have been effected at once, the Customs question if necessary being left for subsequent adjustment, which is what had to be done in the long run, the Customs not being restatements moved until some month after the occupation.

It will have been noted, probably with surprise, that the Governor made no statement as to any final arrangement having been made with the Customs, nor amongst the proposed legislation does any Ordinance appear dealing with the question of establishing a bonded warehouse. It would seem therefore that the question is still pending and that the present provisional arrangement is likely to continue indefinitely. At the time the New Territory Convention was negotiated a pledge was given by the British Government that all possible precautions would be taken to prevent the leased area being used to facilitate smuggling into

China or in any other way to the detriment of the interests of China. As a fulfilment of that pledge the Hongkong General Chamber of Commerce recommended the establishment of a bonded warehouse for opium, and the recommendation was accepted by the Government. The arrangement of the details, however, has been found a matter of some difficulty. An Ordinance was drafted to give effect to the proposal and was submitted to the Chamber of Commerce for its consideration. The draft Bill itself has not been made public, but the Chamber's criticism of it was published with the minutes of one of the Committee's monthly meetings. In their letter to the Government dated 20th July last the Committee say that when in their letter of the 12th August, 1898, they suggested that the Government should give its consideration to the formation of a scheme which would not only provide an effective check on the import of the drug, but trace it also to consumption or exportation, they did not intend to convey the idea that the collection of the duties should be undertaken by the Government. That, however, appears to have been virtually the idea with which the Bill was drafted and in that respect it was in accordance with the directions of the Secretary of State, who in his despatch to the Governor of the 6th January last wrote:—"You will see that Her Majesty's Government have come to the conclusion which—if I understand right—is your own conclusion also; that the only satisfactory solution of this question will be the establishment of some system whereby the Chinese customs duties on opium imported into China from Hongkong, including the newly added territory, shall be actually collected by the Government of Hongkong." From the omission of all reference to the subject in the Governor's speech it would appear that it is not intended to proceed with the proposed Bill at present. The question is a knotty one and its solution will probably give Sir HENRY BLAKE no little trouble.

## THE RETURN OF SIR CLAUDE MACDONALD.

(Daily Press, 11th October.)

The announcement that Sir CLAUDE MACDONALD has completely recovered and was to leave England for China on Monday accompanied by Lady MACDONALD, is a welcome one to all British residents in China and to the people of Hongkong: British interests at Peking are apt to suffer at any time when left in the hands of a Chargé d'Affaires, because the latter naturally feels chary of opening new questions or taking a bold plunge in regard to any debatable matter. Moreover, the Chinese officials are apt to imagine that the Secretary of Legation is a Number Two who has little real authority, and as he does not possess the same rank as his chief his words do not always command the same attention. As a matter of fact, moreover, Mr. BAX-IRONSIDE, though no doubt an admirable Secretary of Legation, appears to lack the necessary firmness in dealing with Chinese, and noticeably in the case of the Inland Waters Regulations he evinced a disposition to give in to the Inspector-General of the Chinese Imperial Maritime Customs, tamely accepting Sir ROBERT HART's interpretation of the regulations as a matter of course. Making all due allowance for the difficulties of his position as a mere *locum tenens*, it is evident that Mr. BAX-IRONSIDE is not sufficiently strong a man for the post at the present juncture, when the Chinese Government are so much disposed to be swayed by Muscovite influence. We do



not attach too much importance to the various reports and statements as to the decline of British prestige in China and the decay of the Minister's influence at Peking which find currency at Shanghai, but we certainly do think that that influence is likely to suffer very materially unless the British Representative is determined and receives vigorous support from the Foreign Office. It is satisfactory, therefore, to learn through Reuter's agency that when speaking at a dinner given to him by the China Association in London, Sir CLAUDE MACDONALD said he viewed British prospects in China hopefully, and that Great Britain now more than held her own in that country. His Excellency may be a little optimistic, but he knows what he is speaking about, and is therefore presumably satisfied that British interests are safe in the Yangtze sphere of influence, that the boundaries of the extension of territory to this Colony are capable of easy settlement, and that in other quarters our interests are effectively safeguarded. When Sir CLAUDE MACDONALD gets back to Peking we trust he will lose no time in taking up the questions now awaiting consideration and settlement, such as the abolition of the preferential duties accorded by the Haikwan at Canton to junk-borne cargo, whereby the Steamboat Companies running on the river are placed at so serious a disadvantage; the piracy and disorders that have, ever since the opening of the West River, obstructed trade and reduced the country to a state approaching anarchy; and the new interpretation given to the Inland Waters Steam Navigation Rules and Regulations, which, with the advantages accorded to Chinese craft, have rendered the privilege of navigating and trading on the inland waterways a complete farce. There is much work out for the British Minister if he desires, as we are sure he does desire, to see that the privileges gained by such arduous negotiation in the past are not reduced to a mere name. We want also to have the question of the northern boundary of this Colony settled, and trust it may be practicable to get the lease converted into a cession, in settlement of the matters at issue arising from the bad faith of the Viceroy TAN of the Two Kwang. If Sir CLAUDE MACDONALD has time, when passing through the colony, the representative bodies here could perhaps obtain an interview and place certain matters clearly before him.

#### BRITAIN'S RESPONSIBILITY FOR THE MAINTENANCE OF ORDER IN HER SPHERE OF INFLUENCE.

(Daily Press, 9th October.)

The *Contemporary Review* for September contains an article by "SENEX" on "The White Man's Burden in China." According to the view of this writer, in his recent agreement with Russia concerning China "Lord SALISBURY honestly means what he says in the preamble to the treaty," and the treaty "is really intended to provide a guarantee for the integrity and independence of China. . . . We have there fore marked out the great Yangtze Valley territories and the larger half, at least, of Kwangtung for our sphere of influence, in order to keep them open to our trade and to the world's trade, while, so far as they are concerned, preserving the integrity of the Chinese Empire. We shall confine ourselves to the legitimate exploitation of trade, commerce, and industry in them. . . . Including, therefore, one

"half of Kwangtung, by the above policy we shall, for the present at least, preserve to the Chinese about half the area of China proper, including considerably more than half of its total population. Moreover, by our influence, direct or indirect, on other Powers, as by a coming treaty with Germany, we shall tend to preserve from any actual occupation or annexation the greater part at least of the large balance which is outside our sphere. Briefly, while Manchuria may be regarded as lost to Russia, we shall give the Chinese a fair chance of preserving practically the whole of China proper, less sundry little nibbles on the extreme coastline occupied by the various Powers as *pieds-a-terre* in their respective spheres of influence. The future, therefore, of China depends upon herself; she has now got another lease of life. If she is willing to learn she may yet preserve her empire from being broken up." The writer vigorously opposes the partitioning of China, holding that it would be a crime and a mistake, but he appears to accept the principle of spheres of influence, and, generally speaking, to approve of Lord SALISBURY's policy. In that respect many in the Far East will dissent from "SENEX's" conclusions, though the tendency of public opinion seems now to set somewhat in the direction he represents.

There is one point, however, on which "SENEX" will meet with no dissent, unless it be on the ground that his recommendations do not go far enough. We refer to that portion of his article in which he demonstrates that the possession of a sphere of influence carries with it responsibility for the maintenance of order in that sphere, and that for the maintenance of order in the British sphere a sufficient military force must be maintained at Hongkong or Weihaiwei and held in readiness to operate wherever and whenever its services may be required. There is a remarkable similarity between what "SENEX" has to say on this point and the recent pronouncement of the Hongkong Branch of the China Association on the same subject. Suppose, he says, a rebel leader with a strong force to be threatening any of the numerous ports along the 1,500 miles course of the navigable Yangtze from Shanghai to Ichang. Are we to leave our small British colony to be destroyed, their property burnt out, and their numerous Chinese employes and myrmidons massacred? Answering this question "SENEX" says:—"No British Government would hesitate to take action in such a case. If they did, the Russians, who have very considerable interests and many Russian subjects to protect there, would promptly send up a strong force from Port Arthur, where they have a small army in readiness; and then what becomes of our sphere of influence in the Yangtze Valley?" "SENEX" weakens his case on this point by making British action dependent on the supposition that a rebel army is threatening a small British colony. Action will be necessary in a much less extreme contingency than that. In an attack on a foreign mission station by a local mob, for instance, the Native Authorities being either unwilling or unable to maintain order or to afford satisfaction when wrong has been committed, is Great Britain to allow the foreign Power whose subjects have been outraged to send a punitive force? If Great Britain is to make her ascendancy effective in her sphere of influence she must act in all such cases herself, to the exclusion of all foreign interference; and, furthermore, in order to obviate the em-

barrassing complications that may arise from such occurrences it is important that she should take such action as will effectually prevent them.

"SENEX" shows in an interesting section of his article how easily an effective control could be exercised without stirring up the masses of people against us. He would have a practically omnipotent British Resident to "advise" the Viceroys and Governors. "Briefly," he says, "we must rule the Chinese by Chinese men and Chinese methods, from the top, with no appreciable change at any given moment anywhere, except in directions which will be most welcome to the people themselves. By a wise and well directed policy of this kind the masses of the people will never be stirred against our rule. It will be a purely nominal matter between their Chinese Governors and us, with which they will have no concern, and about which they will never trouble themselves, so long as they are let alone to pursue their own paths and their accustomed avocations in peace." The only deference the people would find in their lives, says "SENEX," would be that by degrees their heavy burdens would be lightened, extortionate taxation and perpetual squeezes would be minimised and eventually abolished, the courts and administration of justice would be gradually purified, there would be a steadily increasing hope of justice and mercy for the poor man, cruel and inhuman punishments would disappear and be no longer heard of. Perhaps the realisation of this idyllic condition might involve greater difficulties than "SENEX" anticipates. However, that may be, it is essential, if our influence is to be effective in the sphere we have marked out, that we should have a sufficient force ready and close at hand to maintain order whenever a disturbance of the peace is threatened, and more especially to prevent anti-foreign outbreaks.

#### AN INTELLIGENCE DEPARTMENT WANTED.

(Daily Press, 10th October.)

Reference was made in this column yesterday to an article by "SENEX" in the *Contemporary Review*, and more especially to the views therein expressed as to Great Britain's responsibility for the maintenance of order in her sphere of influence. There is another point made in the article which merits attention, namely, the present weakness of our intelligence department and the importance of strengthening it. Judging by all the signs of the times, says "SENEX," a properly organised intelligence office in connection with our British Embassy at Peking is practically non-existent. Otherwise, he proceeds to ask, "how can we account for the fact that our Minister chose the critical moment when the Queen-Dowager was just on the very point of practically deposing the Emperor and putting herself in his place to go off for a holiday and sea-bathing?" After a reference to the importance of the crisis, and stating that its approach was perfectly well known by thousands of Chinese and probably in every foreign embassy in Peking except ours, the article proceeds:—"If we consider the general question we shall find that we of all the Powers are, or ought to be if we went the right way to work, in the best possible position for acquiring good information relating to every part of China. There are hundreds of capable and well-informed English missionaries spread over every district therein. Most of them would be



"only too glad to give valuable reports from time to time to the British Minister at Peking of the state of affairs in their district. Being in the closest touch with the natives and speaking Chinese, the information they would supply would be invaluable. They say that their advice and opinion are never sought. There ought clearly to be a competent official attached to the Embassy whose province it should be to collect, collate, and digest their reports and present the substance of them to the British Minister at regular intervals for his information and for transmission to the Foreign Office." No doubt the missionary body would prove a valuable mine of information, but it is not the only mine that might be advantageously worked. There are a number of Europeans in China outside the missionary ranks who have opportunities of acquiring early information as to approaching political movements and the general trend of native opinion. In some cases information of a valuable nature, and the accuracy of which was fully verified by subsequent events, has been voluntarily tendered to the Embassy and has been acknowledged with such curtness as to convey the impression that unsolicited communications of this kind were unwelcome and regarded with suspicion. Ever since the establishment of an Embassy at Peking there seems to have been a want of sympathy between the Minister and the British residents in China. Not only has the Embassy remained comparatively uninformed concerning what was going on beneath the surface in Chinese circles, but he has also been out of touch with his own nationals, whether mercantile or missionary. It would be well, as has been frequently remarked, if the Minister were to make more frequent tours of the treaty ports and confer with the British communities there. Also, as suggested by "SENEX," the information obtainable from the members of the missionary body should be carefully collected by a regularly organised intelligence office attached to the Embassy. Another valuable means of obtaining information would be by the employment of trained native agents engaged at fixed salaries whose duty it would be to make regular reports on the political talk of the tea shops at the capital and chief towns of the provinces. Other means of obtaining information would no doubt suggest themselves to a skilled intelligence officer. "SENEX" does not exaggerate the importance of having such an officer connected with the Legation. The home Government may have clear ideas of the line of policy they wish to follow with regard to China, but while they remain ignorant, and allow the Minister to remain ignorant, of the daily course of events, they are liable at any time to have their hands inconveniently forced or to have their policy wrecked altogether.

#### FAMINE AND REVOLUTION.

(Daily Press, 10th October.)

According to reports from the North, there is a prospect of hard times in the northern provinces of China during the winter. It appears that in southern Honan and southern Shensi there has been almost a complete failure of the harvest over an extensive range of country, while in southern Chihli the drought is seriously affecting the grains, the heads of the kuoliang filling very imperfectly. It is therefore to be feared that the harvest will prove somewhat meagre. A bad harvest invariably acts prejudicially by creating discontent and dissatisfaction, augments the

ranks of the banditti, who at all times infest the country, and gives much trouble to the weak-kneed officials. The people are already disaffected to the dynasty and are ripe for revolt if only a capable leader were forthcoming. If a famine were to occur the number of the have-nots would receive a great accession, and the situation might easily become critical. In times of plenty things run pretty smoothly in China: the peasant is content to pay the squeezes exacted by the officials, and also submits to a modicum of blackmailing from the robbers who harry the country, just as the merchant and the storekeeper give way to the clamour of the mendicant within the city walls. But there is a point to which his complacency will not go, and that is reached when the blackmailing is doubled or trebled in amount. Then trouble commences, and robberies and outrages take the place of the plunder by pressure. Meantime, if the Government show incompetence in the task of repressing brigandage the people wax discontented, and the way is silently but surely paved for a small rebellion or demonstration, which may or may not attain serious dimensions. The Chinese people probably care little who occupies the Dragon Throne so long as they are not interfered with and know that the course of business will run without interruption, but if matters begin to go badly, even though it may be the immediate result of an indifferent harvest, then there is some danger of a new order of things being established. They acquiesced for the time in the virtual deposition of the Emperor KWANG SU and the assumption of supreme power by the EMPRESS DOWAGER, just as they would acquiesce in the removal of the latter and the elevation of Prince CHING or any other of the Imperial Princes to the Dragon Throne, though they might not approve of it. But if these changes were followed by disaster and presently by chronic disorder, whereby the prosperity of trade, the security of the crops, and the security of person and property were affected, then it might be esteemed a reason for attempting a rebellion. It seems that Chinese dissatisfaction has been made so apparent that the EMPRESS DOWAGER has seen the policy of abandoning the idea of forcing the Emperor KWANG SU to abdicate, and His Majesty has emerged from his obscurity and so far taken part in state affairs as to go with the EMPRESS to the Temple of the Most High to pray for rain on the 22nd ult. The shrewd old lady has lately, it is said, been endeavouring to feel the pulse of the nation on this subject, and found that any attempt to depose the Emperor would rouse determined opposition. Her Majesty has therefore accepted the position, and is seeking to pacify the reform party.

#### CLOTHING IN THE TROPICS.

(Daily Press, 12th October.)

The hot weather experienced in England during the recent summer has been made the subject of an article by the *Spectator*, which suggests that if the country had six months of such weather every year the entire habits of the people would be changed. The leisured classes, says our contemporary, are tolerant of the heat, for the mornings and evenings are to them delightful, and with large rooms, much air, and no peremptory physical exertion to be performed, the hotter hours of the day can be got through without more inconvenience than is caused by loss of appetite and a consciousness of too much blood in the body. But the majority of Englishmen, the article

continues, "live by hard work, and on all who have to toil a thermometer of 75 deg. Fahr. inflicts much suffering. Their workshops become unendurable, their sleeping-rooms seem to be filled with some fluid other than air, and the strength which is so necessary to them oozes almost preceptibly away. Their lives are not arranged in the expectation of great heat, and they hardly comprehend, as indeed even the rich hardly comprehend, how radical a change of habits continuous heat would speedily necessitate." Speculating on the forms this change would take the *Spectator* gives the first place to a modification of dress, and suggests that "with grey pyjamas, a cummerbund instead of braces, and the thinnest of cotton shirts arranged very much as the young women's are now, the necessary coolness would be obtained without any loss of the capacity for work. That change of itself would pull down the thermometer at least three degrees, a reduction of three more could be obtained by adopting a nearly complete vegetable diet, with very little stimulant and much drinking of cool water, and the remaining five degrees would be secured by architectural changes." Pyjamas, cummerbund, and the thinnest of cotton shirts convey a delicious idea of coolness, and we who live in a climate that is hot for six months of the year may perhaps be inclined to ask ourselves why we should during those six months put ourselves to the trouble and discomfort of trying to adhere to the customary garb of cooler climates. It is true that during business hours of the day, although some eccentric individuals may think their dignity in some mysterious way bound up with the wearing of a waistcoat, the majority make themselves as comfortable as circumstances permit by discarding such superfluous garments. The trial comes, however, in the evening, when social functions have to be faced. In the earlier days of the colony white mess jackets were tolerated, even at Government House, but in these degenerate days we are restricted to the black claw-hammer. Sartorial artists have done much to render that conventional garment light and cool, but by no amount of ingenuity can it be reduced to the coolness of white linen. When our former Colonial Secretary, Sir G. T. M. O'BRIEN, went to Fiji as Governor he earned, the gratitude of the community by letting it be understood that attendance in whites at Government House functions would be viewed with favour. The idea underlying all social functions is enjoyment, and as physical discomfort necessarily detracts from enjoyment, it follows that comfort in dress should be accorded a place of primary consideration. In this respect the white mess jacket possesses incontestable advantages over the conventional black coat, and in point of elegance, if there is anything to choose between the two, the scale again tells in favour of white.

#### "BEACONSFIELD" AND REPRESENTATIVE GOVERNMENT.

(Daily Press, 9th October.)

The public must by this time be heartily sick of the Beaconsfield scandal, and after the full and frank explanation of official mismanagement made by H.E. the Governor at the last meeting of the Legislative Council it seems unnecessary to again rake up the details. The affair has a moral, however, and that moral is that the community when they ask to be allowed some voice in the management of their own affairs do not prefer an unreasonable request. The Bea-



consolidated affair, comparatively unimportant as it is in regard to the amount of money involved, exhibits the evils of uncontrolled bureaucratic government, and one of its most disagreeable features has been the difficulty experienced in getting at the facts. As set out in the petition of the Hongkong ratepayers to the House of Commons in 1894, notwithstanding that the whole interests of the ratepayers are inextricably and permanently bound up in the good administration of the colony, in the efficiency of its executive, and the soundness of its finance, the said ratepayers are not permitted to have any really effective voice in the management of its affairs. In the Transvaal Great Britain is on the point of going to war to secure votes for the Uitlanders, a large proportion of whom are foreigners, while in the British colony of Hongkong British subjects are debarred from the exercise of the most elementary political privileges and in this respect are placed on a lower footing than the Chinese inhabitants of our newly-acquired territory, who are allowed to manage their own local affairs through District and Sub-District Committees. The official view is that the unofficial European residents have neither the competence nor the time to take part in the management of public affairs. The officials on their side may not be short of time, but judging from the Beaconsfield muddle their competence is considerably below that which would be expected in popularly elected representatives of the public. The Hon. T. H. WHITEHEAD is going to pay a visit to England next year. While he is there the hon. gentleman may be able to do something at headquarters towards advancing the realisation of Hongkong's political aspirations.

#### HONGKONG LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.

On Wednesday afternoon a meeting of the Hongkong Legislative Council was held in the Council Chamber at the Government Offices, there being present:—

HIS EXCELLENCY THE GOVERNOR (Sir Henry Blake, G.C.M.G.).

HIS EXCELLENCY Major-General GASCOIGNE C.M.G. (Commanding the Troops).

The Hon. J. H. STEWART LOCKHART C.M.G. (Colonial Secretary).

Hon. H. E. POLLOCK (Acting Attorney-General).

Hon. R. MURRAY RUMSEY (Harbour Master).

Hon. F. H. MAY, C.M.G. (Captain Superintendent of Police).

Hon. A. M. THOMSON (Colonial Treasurer).

Hon. R. D. ORMSBY (Director of Public Works).

Hon. C. P. CHATER, C.M.G.

Hon. Dr. Ho Kai.

Hon. E. R. BELLIOS, C.M.G.

Hon. WEE A YUK.

Hon. J. J. KESWICK.

Mr. R. F. JOHNSTON (Acting Clerk of Councils.)

#### FINANCIAL.

The COLONIAL SECRETARY laid on the table financial returns accompanying the draft Estimates for 1900 and also financial minutes Nos. 16 to 18 and moved that the financial minutes be referred to the Finance Committee.

The COLONIAL TREASURER seconded and the motion was carried.

The COLONIAL SECRETARY laid on the table the report of the Finance Committee No. 5 and moved its adoption.

The COLONIAL TREASURER seconded, and the motion was carried.

#### QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS.

The Hon. C. P. CHATER—Your Excellency, in the absence of my honourable friend Mr. Whitehead, I beg on his behalf to ask the questions one to four, and to substitute for Nos. 5 and 6 the following:—

(5).—Will the honourable the Harbour Master inform the Council of the circumstances under

which the Government refused clearance to the steamship *Tarter* on 15th September last and granted clearance to the said steamship on 14th idem without her having added in any way in Hongkong to her life-saving appliances.

(6).—How was it that the Government was not sooner informed of the presence in and around Taipohu of two to three thousand armed Chinese with guns entrenched and in position; and what precautions, if any, were taken to find out the actual condition of the Chinese on the borders of and in the New Territory between Miao Bay and Deep Bay before ordering luncheon for a large number of invited guests, effecting insurance on the steamer *Hankow* for the trip to Miao Bay which did not take place, and making elaborate arrangements for the opening ceremony at which it was proposed to hoist the British flag at Taipohu on 17th April last, all which arrangements, after considerable expenditure was incurred thereon, had at the last moment to be abandoned.

The following are the questions one to four:—

(1).—With reference to the Honourable The Colonial Secretary's report, dated 8th October, 1898, on the extension of the Colony, which under Expenditure reads:—"The cost of administering the New Territory is estimated at \$125,000. The chief items are:—Police \$33,223, Surveyors \$14,400, Miscellaneous \$24,657, total \$72,280. When the work of survey has been completed such a large staff of surveyors will be unnecessary, but it is important, as has been pointed out, that the land under cultivation should be surveyed as quickly as possible. Miscellaneous expenditure has been estimated at a high figure, as unforeseen expenses are sure to be large when the territory is first taken over," will the Honourable Member inform the Council how and upon what basis the said estimate was arrived at, and state whether the Honourable The Captain Superintendent of Police was satisfied that the said estimate of \$33,223 per annum would be adequate to efficiently police the New Territory, seeing that in the statement of expenditure in connection with the New Territory for 1898 laid upon the table to-day the grand total of expenditure amounts to no less than \$346,629.17, of which the police expenditure, actual and estimated, for April to December, 1898, is \$88,972.10?

(2).—Will the Honourable the Colonial Secretary lay upon the table a statement showing the expenditure incurred by the Colonial Government in consequence of the rebellious disturbances and the armed Chinese opposition to British occupation of the Territory leased by the Imperial Chinese Government per the June Convention of last year?

(3).—With reference to Financial Minute No. 12 in which the Governor recommends the Council to vote a sum of \$91,500 to cover the cost of three steam launches required by the Police in the waters of the New Territory, will the Honourable The Harbour Master inform the Council:—(1).—Whether tenders for the construction of the launches have been invited from the various shipbuilding institutions in the Colony? (2).—If so, has any tender been accepted and if accepted what will be the cost of the respective launches? (3).—What are the sizes of the hulls and the engines? (4).—Will they be composite built or will the frames be of hard wood? (5).—If of the latter will the curved frames be natural or cut from straight timber? (6).—Whether launches with frames of wood are more costly than those with steel frames?

(4).—Will His Excellency the Governor appoint a day for the election, by such Ratepayers as are included in the Special and Common Jury Lists and also by such Ratepayers as are exempted from serving on Juries on account of their professional avocations, of two Members to fill the vacancies in the Sanitary Board in accordance with Sections 4 and 5 of the Public Health Ordinance No. 24 of 1887, and will His Excellency the Governor appoint one European and two Chinese Members to the Sanitary Board in accordance with section 4 of the Public Health Ordinance No. 24 of 1887?

The COLONIAL SECRETARY—The answer to the first question is that the estimate was based on the assumption that the territory to be taken over was peaceable and law abiding, and that village constables, as pointed out in my report, would aid in the policing of the extended area. Events since this territory has

been taken over show that a larger regular force is necessary. The estimate was made by me, and the Captain Superintendent of Police is not responsible for it. In answer to the second question I beg to refer the honourable member to the statement of expenditure on account of the New Territory which was laid on the table at the last meeting of Council.

The HARBOUR MASTER—In reply to the third question, I beg to state as follows:—

(1.) Yes. Tenders were invited from three local firms. (2.) Yes. The total cost of the three vessels will be \$91,100. In the interests of the contractors it is not proposed to give the respective cost of each vessel. (3.) The sizes of the hulls and engines are as follows:—(1.) Hull 120 ft. x 20 ft. x 10 ft. Engines of sufficient size to obtain the guaranteed speed. (2.) Hull 83 ft. x 14 ft. x 9 ft. Engines: Cylinders 11 in. and 22 in., Stroke 14 in. (3.) Hull, 75 ft. x 13 ft. x 8 ft. Engines: Cylinders 11 in. and 22 in. Stroke 12 in. (4.) The frames will be hard wood. (5.) The frames will be cut partly from natural crooks and partly from straight timber. (6.) As the Government does not intend building composite vessels it is not in possession of the information necessary for replying to the question.

The COLONIAL SECRETARY—The answer to the fourth question is, Not at present, His Excellency the Governor is considering the matter.

The HARBOUR MASTER—In reply to the fifth question I beg to state as follows:—The passenger certificate allowed for 741 passengers and the number given as being on board was in excess of this. The Harbour Master was, therefore, obliged by law to refuse clearance. When he was informed later that the necessary life-saving apparatus for the larger number was on board, he at once granted clearance.

The COLONIAL SECRETARY—The answer to the sixth question is—The answer to the first part of the question is, because they were not there before the 15th. The answer to the latter part is that the precaution was taken of observing the attitude of the inhabitants towards workmen at Taipohu and survey parties, which was apparently quite friendly, in addition to which nine elders of the district waited upon the Governor on the 12th April and expressed on behalf of the people in general their regret for what had occurred on the 1st April and declared that the false reports having been refuted the people had become more settled.

#### THE ESTIMATES—SPEECH BY

#### THE GOVERNOR.

HIS EXCELLENCY THE GOVERNOR—I have the honour to submit for your consideration the Estimates for the coming year, and in doing so I venture after the usual custom to make a few observations on the position of the colony. But first, I take this earliest public opportunity that has presented itself to express my acknowledgments for the cordial manner in which Lady Blake and I have been received by the community of this important colony. The ten months that have elapsed since my assumption of the government have been months fraught with exceptional anxiety and responsibility. Under the Convention between Her Majesty the Queen and His Imperial Majesty the Emperor of China, the area of twenty-nine square miles that has hitherto been the extent of the colony was increased by a lease for ninety-nine years of an area of four hundred square miles, with an estimated population of 100,000. It was assumed that the knowledge of the just treatment of the Chinese inhabitants of Hongkong and British Kowloon would induce the population of the leased area to accept the jurisdiction of Great Britain with equanimity, if not with pleasure. Had it been possible to take over the possession immediately this assumption might have been verified. But there were unavoidable delays. The question of delimitation had to be settled, and when a tentative arrangement had been arrived at it was found that there was an unfortunate misconception on the part of the Chinese Government as to the effect of the Convention upon the position of the Chinese Imperial Customs authorities who had hitherto exercised jurisdiction within the leased area. At the earnest request of Her Majesty's Minister in Peking I deferred the taking over of the Territory until the 17th April, completing in the meantime the necessary arrangements for the carrying out of ex-



ective functions. Unhappily, the interval was taken advantage of by agitators who disturbed the minds of the people by statements that their lands would be forcibly taken from them and their most cherished customs forbidden. The first symptoms of hostility were shown on the 31st March when the building of a mat-shed at Tai-pohu was prevented, and the men engaged in erecting boundary posts were stopped from working. I saw the Viceroy on the 2nd April at Canton and pointed out that if protection was not afforded to working parties and surveying parties I could not adhere to my undertaking not to take over the Territory until the 17th. The necessary protection was promised, and surveying parties were not molested, nor was the rebuilding of the mat-shed prevented. What took place on the 15th of April and following days has already been laid before you. The resistance having been overcome I have endeavoured to satisfy the people that they may safely depend upon British justice, and that no man's property will be confiscated, and I have no doubt that the people will soon recognize this. Apart from the question of resistance to our occupation, it was found that the inhabitants suffered from frequent attacks by armed bands of robbers against whom the village watchmen were powerless, and there was a general indication of lawlessness not uncommon in South China. This necessitated a reconsideration of the Police Force necessary to secure that protection that we are bound to afford. The original estimate has been largely increased, and stations have been established at important points of sufficient strength to repel armed attack and furnish the necessary patrols. I am glad to say that the efforts of the Police have so far shown satisfactory results, for of the twenty-seven cases of armed robbery reported from the New Territory twenty-two persons have been convicted and are suffering long terms of imprisonment. I hope to see a salutary change of conditions within a short time and to be in a position to reduce the strength of the various police stations.

Simultaneously with the troubles that developed in the New Territory there arose a much more serious danger. In the beginning of April, the plague was again upon us, and notwithstanding the unwearied exertions of the Sanitary Board and its staff, it increased in intensity and virulence all through the summer, and has only ceased its ravages with the beginning of the present month. This year there have been 1,471 cases of which 1,413 have proved fatal, the percentage of deaths being the highest on record. Feeling the overwhelming importance to the community of eradicating this scourge if possible, I have watched the operations of the sanitary staff with the keenest anxiety. Before the disease appeared, as it was assumed that plague was primarily propagated by rats, a Committee was appointed consisting of the Captain Superintendent of Police, the Medical Officer of Health, and the Government Analyst to wage war upon the rats by poison or traps, or both, and the necessary funds were placed at their disposal. They appealed to the Chinese for assistance and made every effort to destroy the rats, but I believe they were not very successful. When the epidemic was at its height I satisfied myself by frequent personal inspection that the scavengers and the sanitary staff were doing their duty. The streets and lanes were perfectly clean, and whole streets filled furniture while the houses were being limewashed and disinfected bore evidence to the activity of the sanitary staff. Yet nothing seemed to stay the onward progress of the plague, until at last it has died out in the usual course, having lingered here rather longer than in other cities of South China where no such precautions were taken. An Insanitary Dwellings Bill had already been presented to you. During the summer it has been carefully reconsidered, and in its amended form it will be again presented to you to-day. A return has been made of all the cases of plague during the present year with all the information available that possibly may throw light upon the causes of the disease. It we can decide upon the causes, no expenditure within the reach of the colony would be too great to secure the blessing of freedom from such a scourge; but in considering the Bill it is well that you should be in possession of facts on which to form an opinion rather than be guided

ed by assumptions that, however strongly held, afford no sound basis upon which measures should be adopted involving probably very large expense to the colony.

I am happy to be able to congratulate you upon the general state of the commerce of the colony. I have it on most excellent authority that business was never in a sounder condition and the commercial energy of the community was never more apparent. At the same time trade has suffered and is suffering from the disturbed state of the Southern provinces and the prevalence of piracy on the West River. The attention of Her Majesty's Government has been called to the great injury done to the trade of this Colony, and His Excellency the Admiral Commanding on this Station has despatched a gunboat up the West River to protect British interests, but I am convinced that the best protection to the interests of the commerce of this Colony would be the faithful carrying out by the Chinese Government of the Agreement made with Her Majesty's Minister at Peking for the opening of the West River under the Inland Steam Navigation Regulations as first proposed and agreed upon. I have had great pleasure in forwarding the letters of the Chamber of Commerce on this most important subject to the Secretary of the State for the Colonies. Notwithstanding the disabilities under which trade is hampered on the West River, the returns show a satisfactory increase both in foreign and junk-borne traffic, the number of foreign built vessels entering and clearing being 7,982 with 10,155,993 tons as compared with 8,831 ships with 9,948,242 tons in 1898, and of 55,882 junks with 3,373,210 tons as compared with 49,517 junks with 2,933,714 tons in 1898.

I regret to say that the Police statistics show a considerable increase in the number of serious crimes, the total number from the 1st January to the 31st August being 2,110 as against 1,920 for the same period last year. The returns show an especially large proportionate increase in the serious crimes of robbery and house-breaking, the increase in the former being due to the cases in the New Territory to which I have already alluded. The Captain Superintendent of Police attributes the general increase of crime to the number of vacancies in the Police Force and the disturbed condition of the neighbouring provinces of China. On the other hand, there has been an entire absence of the gang robberies so frequent in the past in the City of Victoria. Every effort is being made to obtain recruits from home for the Police Force.

The revenue for 1900 is estimated at \$3,325,479 and the expenditure at \$3,219,859, leaving an estimated balance of \$105,620. In estimating the expenditure the dollar has been taken at 1/11. The Estimates have been prepared with caution, and with a rigid regard for economy. The various items of increased expenditure will be fully explained in Committee. The estimate of Public Works Extraordinary amounts to \$331,100, or \$163,000 less than the approved Estimate of last year, but it still remains \$96,000 more than the amount actually expended in 1898. The works estimated for are those that I consider most pressing, and the amounts are as large as can prudently be placed upon an estimate of expenditure based upon the revenue as shown in these Estimates; but, as the financial statement accompanying the Estimates will show, I hope to have at the end of the current year, including a balance, in round figures, of \$90,000 brought forward from last year, a surplus of about \$400,000 over the actual expenditure, which will justify me in submitting to you votes for further expenditure upon those works that appear in the Estimates, or for such other pressing works as have been approved by the Public Works Committee. The most pressing public work at the present moment is the building for the New Law Courts, which blocks the way for the improvement of the Post Office, a building entirely insufficient and unsuited for the postal requirements of the Colony. The plans for the Law Courts were returned on January 21st to London with some suggestions for improvements. I have written urging that they shall be sent out with the least possible delay. The question of the construction of the Jubilee Road round Mount Davis has been referred to the Secretary of State for the Colonies, and as His Excellency Major-General Gascoigne has

somewhat modified his views as to the military inexpediency of the road in deference to strong public feeling in its favour, I think it probable that the construction of that section may be authorized, as the objection that prevented my authority being given was entirely military. If those new and important works be undertaken it appears to me that the Public Works Department will have as much work on its hands as can be satisfactorily managed without considerable additions to the present staff.

The only other item that calls for especial notice is the increase of the vote for the expense of the Volunteers from \$12,000 to \$30,000. This increase is due mainly to an increase in the number of the Corps from 185 to 304. The Corps now forms a valuable addition to the effective armed forces of the colony. In April last the regiment gave timely and valuable assistance, and its patriotic spirit has lately been shown by an offer to the Imperial Government of two officers and fifty men for active service in South Africa should unhappily hostilities be forced upon us. While the military authorities have not been able to accept their services I have been requested to convey to the Hongkong Volunteers the high appreciation by Her Majesty's Government of the loyal patriotism that prompted the offer—an appreciation that will, I feel certain, be shared by every member of the community. (Applause.)

The following Bills will be submitted to you:—An Ordinance to apply a sum not exceeding Two million Six hundred and Eighty-one thousand Six hundred and Fifty-one dollars to the Public Service of the year 1900. An Ordinance to make further provision for the sanitation of the colony and to repeal certain enactments of the Closed Houses and Insanitary Dwellings Ordinance, 1894. An Ordinance for the Naturalization of Sin Hip Pan, alias Sin Shu Fan, alias Sin Shiu Kin, alias Sin Ping Kim. An Ordinance for the Naturalization of Kwok Yung Kam alias Kwok To Kai alias Kwok Ying. An Ordinance for the Naturalization of Ho Shun To, alias Ho Kwan Yuk, alias Ho Ping Un, alias Ho Tsoi. An Ordinance for the Naturalization of Hu Choo, alias Hu Shun Tsun, alias Hu Ping Fong, alias Hu Nai Kwai. An Ordinance for the Naturalization of Lo Kun Ting, alias Lo Fo, alias Lo Ching Chiu, alias Lo Tin Fui. An Ordinance to amend the Vagrancy Ordinance, 1897. An Ordinance to amend the Rating Ordinance, 1881. An Ordinance to amend the Crown Lands Resumption Ordinance, 1889. An Ordinance to amend "The Protection of Women and Girls Ordinance, 1897." I commend them to your most careful consideration. Again, I congratulate you on the abounding prosperity of the Colony, and I earnestly hope that your deliberations may tend to the welfare and progress of the community.

#### APPOINTMENT OF COMMITTEES.

HIS EXCELLENCY the GOVERNOR—It is my duty to appoint the following committees.—

Finance—The Hon. the Colonial Secretary (chairman) and the whole of the rest of the Council with the exception of the Governor.

Law—The Hon. Attorney-General (chairman) and the Hon. J. J. Keswick, the Hon. Dr. Ho Kai, the Hon. E. R. Belilios, and the Hon. Wei A Yuk.

PUBLIC WORKS—The Hon. Director of Public Works (chairman), the Hon. Colonial Treasurer, the Hon. C. P. Chater, the Hon. E. R. Belilios, and the Hon. T. H. Whitehead.

#### THE APPROPRIATION BILL.

THE COLONIAL SECRETARY—I have the honour to move the first reading of a Bill entitled An Ordinance to apply a sum not exceeding Two million Six hundred and Eighty-one thousand Six hundred and Fifty-one Dollars to the Public Service of the year 1900. In moving this first reading, I beg to lay on the table the papers which usually accompany this Bill.

THE COLONIAL TREASURER seconded and the motion was carried.

#### THE INSANITARY PROPERTIES BILL.

THE ACTING ATTORNEY-GENERAL—I beg to move the first reading of a Bill entitled An Ordinance to make further provision for the Sanitation of the Colony and to repeal certain enactments of the Closed Houses and Insanitary Dwellings Ordinance, 1894. I may mention, sir, that this Bill takes the places of a Bill which was read a first time in November last.



year, and that it is not proposed to proceed further with that Bill.

The COLONIAL SECRETARY seconded and the motion was carried.

#### NATURALIZATION.

The following Bills passed their second and third readings:—

Bill entitled An Ordinance for the Naturalization of Sin Hip Pan, alias Sin Shu Fan, alias Sin Shin Kin, alias Sin Ping Kim.

Bill entitled An Ordinance for the Naturalization of Kwok Yung Kam alias Kwok To Kai alias Kwok Ying.

Bill entitled An Ordinance for the Naturalization of Ho Shun T'o, alias Ho Kwan Yuk, alias Ho Ping Un, alias Ho Tsai.

Bill entitled An Ordinance for the Naturalization of Hu Choo, alias Hu Shun Ts'un, alias Hu Ping Fong, alias Hu Nai Kwai.

Bill entitled An Ordinance for the Naturalization of Lo Kun Ting, alias Lo Fo, alias Lo Ching Chin, alias Lo Tin Fui.

#### THE VAGRANCY ORDINANCE.

The ACTING ATTORNEY-GENERAL—I beg to move the second reading of the Bill entitled an Ordinance to amend the Vagrancy Ordinance, 1897. As honourable members will see from the "objects and reasons" attached to the Bill. This Bill has been framed in accordance with instructions which have been received from the Secretary of State for the Colonies in consequence of certain representations which were made to him by the Board of Trade. Clause 2 of this Bill affects rather an important amendment to Ordinance 25 of 1897 by substituting a new clause for clause C of section 21 of that Bill. As clause C of that Bill stands the shipowner would be liable for the maintenance of any person who is discharged from a ship in this colony for a period of six months from the date of such person's arrival in the colony, altogether irrespective of the fact whether the shipowner had properly discharged the man with the sanction of the Superintendent of the Mercantile Marine Office or his Deputy, and also altogether irrespective of the fact whether the shipowner made reasonable provision for the subsistence of that person who was discharged from his ship. I think it is not unreasonably considered by the shipowners that that is rather a hardship upon the owners of ships and accordingly the Board of Trade approached the Secretary of State in this matter with the result that it is proposed now, with the sanction of the Secretary of State, to introduce a new clause C to section 21, the new clause being 2 of this Bill. Honourable members will see that an amendment is made in the term "sailor," "seaman" being substituted. The object of that is to include any person employed or engaged in any capacity on board ship (except masters, pilots, and apprentices) and not merely persons engaged in the navigation of the ship. The amendments made to clause 3 of the Bill are purely verbal amendments, and I do not think I need trouble the Council with any remarks upon them. The second amendment made by clause 3 is of some importance, because it does not hold the shipmaster responsible for the solvency of his passengers during a period of six months after he has landed them. As Ordinance 25 of 1897 now stands it holds the shipowners responsible for a period of six months, and that period has been struck out. With these observations, sir, I beg to move the second reading of the Bill.

The COLONIAL SECRETARY seconded, and the motion was carried.

The Bill having been considered clause by clause in Committee it was read a third time and passed.

#### THE RATING ORDINANCE.

The ACTING ATTORNEY GENERAL—I beg, sir, to move the second reading of the Bill entitled an Ordinance to amend the Rating Ordinance, 1888.

The COLONIAL TREASURER, in seconding, said—The Bill was introduced at my suggestion on account of a recent decision of the Puisne Judge in the Supreme Court with regard to lifts. The Puisne Judge held that a lift was machinery within the meaning of the Ordinance, and that as such it was not rateable, nor were the improvements arising from the use of that lift. We thought it was rather hard that a building should be rated for very much less than its proper value, and that is the object of the Bill.

Carried.

The ACTING ATTORNEY-GENERAL—who having looked through the Bill thought the wording required further consideration—I propose we go into committee on this Bill at the next meeting of the Council.

#### CROWN LANDS RESUMPTION ORDINANCE.

The ACTING ATTORNEY-GENERAL—I beg to move the second reading of the Bill entitled an Ordinance to amend the Crown Lands Resumption Ordinance, 1889. Honourable members will see from the "objects and reasons" attached to the Bill that the object of clause 2 of this Bill is to amend the preamble to Ordinance 23 of 1889 in such a way as to make it clear that the acquisition or resumption of land or buildings may be effected for any "public purpose" as defined by clause 3 of this Bill. The object of the amendment introduced by sub-section (i.) of clause 3 of this Bill is to make it clear that the expression "land" includes buildings, and also to clear up any possible ambiguity as to Ordinance 23 of 1889 being capable of application to the New Territories. The object of sub-section (ii.) of clause 3 of this Bill is—(a.) to make it clear that resumption includes acquisition, and (b.) to define what is meant by a "public purpose." Clause 4 of this Bill introduces a small amendment in the language of section 3 of Ordinance 23 of 1889 which is required for the purpose of bringing the wording of that section into line with section 14. Clause 5 of the Bill introduces a small amendment in section 14 of Ordinance 23 of 1889 with the object of bringing that section into line with the definition contained in clause 3 of this Bill.

The COLONIAL SECRETARY seconded, and the motion was carried.

The Bill having been considered in committee clause by clause was read a third time and passed.

#### THE PROTECTION OF WOMEN AND GIRLS.

The ACTING ATTORNEY GENERAL—Your Excellency, since the last meeting of the Council the Bill entitled an Ordinance to amend the Protection of Women and Girls Ordinance, 1897, has been reprinted with all the amendments made in Committee and circulated to honourable members. Unless it is the desire of any honourable member that the Bill should be further considered, I propose to move the third reading as it stands. I beg to propose the third reading of the Bill.

The COLONIAL SECRETARY seconded and the motion was carried.

#### THE ADJOURNMENT.

His EXCELLENCY the GOVERNOR—I adjourn the Council until this day fortnight so that members will have an opportunity of considering the Estimates in the meantime. If at the end of that time honourable members require any further time for consideration I shall be very glad to meet their views. But I hope that by the end of that time you will have had time to consider the Estimates.

#### FINANCE COMMITTEE.

A meeting of the Finance Committee was then held, the Colonial Secretary presiding. The following recommendations of His Excellency the Governor were agreed to:—

To vote a sum of one thousand and three hundred dollars in aid of the vote "Steam-launches, other charges."

The CHAIRMAN explained that the Harbour Master reported an increased expenditure of coal this year necessitating an increase in the vote.

To vote a sum of one hundred and fifty-five thousand five hundred and twenty-nine dollars to cover expenses incurred in the New Territory for the current year.

The CHAIRMAN explained that honourable members would remember that at the last meeting of the Council but one, a statement of expenditure actual and estimated for the year 1899 in connection with the new Territory was laid on the table, and that such estimate amounted to \$346,629.17. Of that sum \$100,000 for general expenditure and \$91,100 for launches making a total of 191,100 had already been voted by the Council and the object of the vote of to-day was to supply the balance.

To vote a sum of two thousand dollars in aid of the vote "Maintenance of Sewers."

The CHAIRMAN observed that the engineer in charge of sewers stated that the extension

of sewers in all parts of the city had rapidly gone ahead, and that in the early part of the year 159 broken gully traps were replaced by new ones at a cost of \$1,000. There had also been a great deal of trouble owing to the roots of trees going into the sewers, and particular attention had been given to the sewers during the epidemic of plague.

This was all the business.

#### HONGKONG GENERAL CHAMBER OF COMMERCE.

At the monthly meeting of the General Committee of the Hongkong General Chamber of Commerce, held at 3.30 p.m. on Tuesday, the 3rd October, 1899,—Present: Messrs R. M. Gray (Chairman), A. McConachie (Vice-Chairman), A. Haupt, Sir Thomas Jackson, Hon. J. J. Keswick, Messrs. W. Poate, H. A. Ritchie, N. A. Siebs, Hon. T. H. Whitehead, and Mr. R. C. Wilcox (Secretary).—

#### MINUTES.

The minutes of the last monthly meeting (held 12th Sept.) were read and confirmed.

#### QUARANTINE RESTRICTIONS IN STRAITS SETTLEMENTS.

In accordance with the decision come to at last meeting, a letter was, on the 13th Sept., addressed to the Colonial Secretary, asking that the Straits Settlements Government be communicated with on the subject of quarantine, either by wire or by letter, and asked to modify the restrictions and withdraw the prohibition on immigration from Hongkong.

Read reply, dated 20th September, stating that a telegram had been sent to the Straits Government on the subject of removing restrictions on shipping from Hongkong, and that a copy of the Chamber's letter had also been forwarded to Singapore.

The Secretary stated that no reply had yet been received by the Government from the Straits Authorities.

Surprise was expressed by the Committee at the delay shown by the Straits Government in replying, more especially as they had been telegraphed to.

[A letter was received on the 4th inst. from the Colonial Secretary, enclosing copy of reply of the Straits Settlements Government to telegram sent on the 18th ult. in which they declined to relax precautionary measures against the importation of plague from Hongkong, without more information.]

#### PROPOSED ESTABLISHMENT OF A BOARD OF CONSERVANCY AT SHANGHAI

The Secretary reported that the circular letter from the Shanghai Chamber of Commerce on the above subject was duly acknowledged, in terms decided upon at last meeting, on the 14th Sept., and that Chamber was asked to indicate any particular line of action in promoting the object it was thought the Hongkong Chamber could assist in taking.

#### CABLE RATES BETWEEN THE FAR EAST AND EUROPE.

On the proposition of the Chairman, seconded by the Vice-Chairman, the following resolutions dealing with the tariff of rates charged for telegrams between the Far East and Europe were unanimously adopted:—

1.—This Committee, having carefully considered the cost of telegraphy and the rates charged between the Far East and Europe, are strongly of opinion that the existing Tariff is needlessly high and tends to prevent that expansion of business which, with greater facilities of communication, would inevitably take place.

2.—The rate charged between London and Hongkong is relatively much higher than that ruling for many other countries, as the following figures will show:—

Country.	Distance (miles)	Tariff. s. d.
South Australia	12,000	4 9
Hongkong	9,800	5 6
Cyprus	3,000	6 1
Malta	2,280	4
San Francisco	6,000	1 6

This list does not exhaust the comparisons, but those given will suffice to indicate the very great differences existing. Thus, while South Australia is more than two thousand miles further distant from London than Hongkong, the rate thither is 9d. per word less, while Cyprus, which is nearly one third the distance from England,



enjoys a rate about equal to one-tenth of that of the tariff to Hongkong. Malta, which is over two thousand miles distant from England, pays even less, the rate being only 4d. per word. The tariff to San Francisco is also proportionally much lower.

3.—Making all due allowances for payments for messages passing over sections of foreign lines, there can be no room for doubt that the Telegraph Companies could considerably reduce the existing rates, and there is as little doubt that the increased traffic would in great measure, if not entirely, make up for the diminished profit on the messages.

4.—This Committee are further strongly of opinion that, if necessary to reduce the cost of telegraphing, the Telegraph Companies should combine to make more use of existing land lines, over which, save in exceptional cases, they would be allowed to transmit messages at low rates, as is now done, for example, between London and Constantinople. If telegrams can be despatched in Australia over a distance of three thousand miles for a penny a word, the same thing can surely be done in other more thickly populated countries.

5.—The time has now arrived when substantial reductions must be made in the telegraph tariffs, or an effort will have to be made to destroy the monopoly which at present works inimically to the interests of trade in the Far East; and this Chamber will be prepared to join a movement having for its object the purchase by the Imperial Government of all cables connecting the outlying sections of the British Empire, to the end that a reasonable rate, within the reach of all, may be substituted for the present almost prohibitive charges.

It was also decided to address a letter to the Colonial Government on the subject, praying that a copy of the resolutions may be transmitted to the Secretary of State for the Colonies, to forward a copy of them to the Superintendent of the joint Telegraph Companies with a covering letter, and to send copies to the Chambers in the United Kingdom.

#### INLAND WATERS STEAM NAVIGATION.

In connection with the letter addressed by the representatives of Companies trading on the inland waterways of the Two Kwang to this Chamber, a despatch was, on the 21st Sept., addressed to the Government with copy of the memorandum on the subject, asking H. E. the Governor to lay the matter before the Secretary of State for the Colonies.

Copies of all the correspondence on this important subject had been supplied to the local Press.

#### THE PIRACIES AND DISORDERS IN THE TWO KWANG.

Consequent on the decision arrived at last meeting, a letter was, on the 21st September, addressed to the Government on this subject, recommending an increase in the flotilla employed by the British Naval authorities in assisting to police the West River and tributaries.

On the 28th idem, owing to a suggestion by the Chairman, a further letter was despatched to the Government, in which an alternative was proposed, viz., that all vessels flying the British flag and trading on inland waters might be given the right to call for passengers or cargo at every inland port or place on the river at which a Custom House or Lekin Station is maintained, the idea being that a number of steamers being frequently in evidence would impart a feeling of greater safety and prove a deterrent to piracy.

This letter was read by the Chairman, who added that of course whatever was open to the British flag was equally open to all foreign flags, but in addressing the Government the British flag only was mentioned.

It was decided to publish both letters.

#### FOURTH CONGRESS OF CHAMBERS OF COMMERCE OF THE EMPIRE.

The Secretary reported that the invitation from the Council of the London Chamber of Commerce to send delegates to represent this Chamber at the above named Congress in 1900 was duly acknowledged and the nomination form filled in as requested, announcing that Sir Thomas Jackson, Knt., and the Hon. T. H. Whitehead, M.L.C., had consented to represent the Chamber.

#### PREVENTION OF THEFT IN PARCELS POST OFFICE.

Read letter from Messrs. Tata & Co., dated 14th September, in which, after detailing the circumstances attending the theft by a Postal employé of a parcel despatched by them to Bombay, they propose an additional precaution to those in practice to check dishonesty.

#### REUTER'S COMMERCIAL TELEGRAMS.

Read letter from Reuter's Agent in reply to the Chamber's suggestions for the improvement of the Commercial Telegrams in which he says that after communicating with Shanghai he will forward a statement of the Chamber's requirements to the Head Office.

#### [Correspondence]

#### THE PIRACY ON THE WEST RIVER.

Hongkong General Chamber of Commerce.  
Hongkong, 21st September 1899.

Sir—I am directed by my Committee to again invite the attention of His Excellency the Governor to the condition of the districts watered by the West River and the piracies committed on that waterway and its tributaries, to the serious obstruction of trade.

The despatch of the gunboat *Tweed* and of a torpedo boat hence to the West River has no doubt had a good effect in some portions of the territory in question, but the length of the river and the numerous creeks preclude such a small force from having more than a very partial effect. If the Chinese Authorities could be relied upon to do their duty and second the efforts made to rid the country of the lawless characters who batten upon the labours of the industrious portion of the population probably the force sent thither might suffice for the purpose. Unfortunately, however, the reverse is the case; nothing is attempted in real earnest by the Chinese officials and if the evil is to be rooted out it seems that it will have to be done by a British naval patrol.

This being the case the Committee would respectfully suggest to His Excellency the Governor the propriety of still further augmenting the gunboat flotilla by getting out more boats of the *Sandpiper* class, as soon as they can be procured. Meantime, it might perhaps be practicable to send armed light draft steam-launches to be attached to the larger vessels for use in the shallow waters.—I have the honour to be, sir, your most obedient servant,

R. CHATTEERTON WILCOX,  
Secretary.

Hon. Colonial Secretary.

Hongkong General Chamber of Commerce.  
Hongkong, 28th September, 1899.

Sir,—In continuation of previous correspondence and advertising particularly to my letter of the 21st inst. on the subject of the obstructions caused to trade by the disturbances on the West River and district watered by it, I am desired by the Committee to offer a further suggestion for the consideration of His Excellency the Governor.

Recognising the fact that the provision of the number of steam-launches required to effectually police the inland waterways would necessarily entail a heavy expense upon the British Government for their upkeep, the Committee think that a similar result might perhaps be attained if all vessels flying the British flag and trading on inland waters were to be given the right to call for passengers and cargo at every inland port or place on the river at which a Custom House or Lekin Station is maintained. Under the British flag, in properly appointed vessels, greater safety would be secured for passengers and cargo and the mere fact of a sufficient number of such vessels being constantly in evidence moving up and down the river would prove a deterrent to the trade of piracy which is now being carried on and would thereby necessitate the continuance of only a few gunboats on this duty.

The British Government have every right to make this demand. In principle the opening of the Inland Waterways of South China to foreign trade and navigation has already been conceded, while in practice, as is so widely known, the concession has been rendered of no effect. The grounds on which this demand should be made are therefore, first, to secure us the reality of what has only been given, apparently, with intent to convert it into a sham; and

secondly, that it is necessary to give security to trade, to the traders travelling, and to the natives who form their constituency. At the present moment the greatest sufferers from these perpetual piracies are the native traders who carry on business with the foreign merchants. That they should receive protection against lawless characters is of supreme importance, and it is the policy as well as the desire of the British merchants to see that the peaceable portion of the population is not disturbed or plundered.

Seeing therefore that the privilege suggested is, but a means (and that an easy and practicable one) of securing a concession previously made and that it will be the means of conferring benefits on the whole of the district concerned while at the same time yielding increased revenue to the Chinese Government, the Committee are of opinion that there should be no difficulty in obtaining it. They accordingly hope that His Excellency the Governor will see his way to make representations to this effect to the Right Honourable the Secretary of State for the Colonies.—I have the honour to be, sir, your most obedient servant,

R. CHATTEERTON WILCOX,  
Secretary.

Hon. J. H. Stewart-Lockhart, C.M.G., Colonial Secretary.

#### AFFAIRS IN THE PHILIPPINES.

#### AN ALLEGED INTERVIEW WITH ADMIRAL DEWEY FURNISHES ENCOURAGEMENT TO THE FILIPINOS.

[FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.]

Manila, 1st October.

An alleged interview with Admiral Dewey which is said to have been given out by the Secretary of the American embassy at Naples, is creating no end of joyful comment among the Filipinos and insurrecto sympathizers. The interview is supposed to have taken place shortly before the *Olympia* sailed from Naples and runs as follows:—

"I consider the Philippine question is of more importance than any other before the American people, for I know the Filipinos and they know that I am their friend. I believe and assert that the situation in that country will soon be settled. The Filipinos are capable of governing themselves. I have never been a member of the party in favour of violence toward the Filipinos. The insurrection can only be ended by granting them a government of their own."

The *Democracia*, a daily paper published in Manila which was started some time ago under the unofficial direction of President Schurman, of the American Commission, devotes considerable space to a discussion of the interview, during the course of which it says:—"We heartily congratulate Admiral Dewey, for his words will contribute to further the aspirations of the Filipino people."

*El Grito del Pueblo* prints the following:—"We tender by means of our modest publication our most enthusiastic congratulations to Admiral Dewey, both in our own name and in the name of all Filipinos, upon his noble and sincere utterances, and assure him of our deepest gratitude for the justice which he does us by recognizing our ability to govern ourselves. Admiral Dewey is eminently right. The only means of putting an end to the disturbances which are bringing ruin, desolation, and death to the Philippines, is the granting to them of their own government. If the great North American people do this they may be absolutely certain that their brothers, the Philippine people, will shower blessings upon them. The words of the distinguished Admiral give us encouragement and cause for hope that the present state of affairs, so prejudicial to this beautiful country, whose sons have always been noted for their peaceful character, their moderation, and their culture, will soon come to an end."

Filipinos of good standing in Manila are highly enthusiastic over the matter and say that nothing so encouraging has been heard for months. It is rumoured that thousands of copies of the Admiral's alleged words are being printed to be later distributed throughout the entire insurgent



territory. To-day, an American officer of high rank in discussing the matter said that such publications were as valuable as thousands of soldiers to the enemy, and this opinion is shared by most of those who have read the sentences credited to the Admiral. At the present writing it is impossible to say definitely whether the report is true, but it is very difficult to connect such utterances with Dewey's name. However, the fact remains that, locally, a great amount of interest is felt in the message.

It is very probable that the authorities will take some steps in the matter and if the report is false the publishers will be severely dealt with.

### THE RETURN OF THE AMERICAN PRISONERS.

#### THE FILIPINO COMMISSION VISIT MANILA.

Manila, 3rd October.

The Filipino commissioners have come and gone and the situation remains unchanged, except for the return of fourteen nondescript prisoners who, after being held for some months in insurgent territory, are again in Manila.

Shortly after nine o'clock on Saturday morning a white flag was seen approaching the American outpost near Angeles, and a few minutes later three insurgent officers, dressed in the cleanest and neatest of uniforms, were admitted to General McArthur's lines. Before entering they were met by Brigadier-General Wheeler and some of his staff near the bank of the river which marks the present war line. The senior officer, Brigadier-General Alejandro, explained through his aids, Lieut.-Colonel Soriano and Commandant Ortiz, that they had been sent by Aguinaldo as a Commission to accompany the American prisoners to the American lines. They asked permission to proceed to Manila and visit General Otis in order that they might deliver a letter that was addressed to the Governor by President Aguinaldo. This was granted.

Just before reaching the American outpost the Filipino guards withdrew, and the prisoners hurried over the short intervening space and were free men again. Their appearance occasioned prolonged cheering and handshaking and congratulations from all who were within reach.

Some time was spent in reciting their adventures, explaining their identities and regiments, and then word came that they were to be conveyed to Manila on a special train with the Filipino commissioners, and as they marched off down the road dressed in new Filipino blue cloth uniforms, straw hats, and canvas shoes, every man looked well fed and clean and healthy, making the comparison with the regular soldiers in their worn clothes all the more noticeable.

At San Fernando a stop was made to allow General Otis's special train to pass and the commissioners and prisoners were dined by Captain Johnson, of General McArthur's staff.

The news of the release of the men spread down the road faster than the train could speed and at each station a mob of soldiers hurrahed and cheered for the generous enemy as well as for the prisoners with more enthusiasm than has been seen for some time.

The journey ended at seven o'clock in the evening, when Colonel Barry and Captain Green met the commissioners and escorted them to the Oriente Hotel, where apartments had been prepared. The American prisoners were taken in charge by the Provost guard, which conveyed them across the Pasig to Fort San Antonio, where they now await investigation into the circumstances of their having been taken prisoners. Some of them are believed to be deserters and one said that he had indulged in a glorious drunk only on wakening up to find an insurgent guard standing over him. None of the men are known to have been taken in battle and the present report is that the majority of them are without the best of records. Some, however, were captured on outpost work by sneaking squads of the enemy. All the prisoners are one voiced in lauding the consideration and kindness of their captors. At first only rice was fed to them, but when they objected they received rations similar to those of the Filipino officers and twenty cents per day additional for luxuries. On the occasion of the baptism of Aguinaldo's baby, chronicled some time ago

in the Press, the Americans were given four pesos each, and again at Mabalacat at the recent festival three and one half more pesos were distributed. They were not made to work and apparently lived in elegant leisure with nothing to do but sleep and eat. A number of foreigners are reported to be connected in various ways with the insurgent forces, but no very definite information warranting the use of names was obtainable.

On Sunday morning General Otis received the commissioners, who attempted to present a letter from Don Emilio Aguinaldo, President of the Philippine Republic. It was not accepted and will return unopened to His Excellency. General Alejandro then requested permission for the reception of a diplomatic committee. This also was refused. It was simply the old game of seeking some avenue to receive recognition as a Government, and they lost again.

This morning the interview was repeated, but nothing came of it and the officers returned to their own territory. Wherever they passed through the streets the native population manifested the most intense interest and respect and on Sunday afternoon several hundred Filipinos raised a demonstration in front of the Oriente by shouting and raising hats to the General at his window.

### HONGKONG SANITARY BOARD.

The fortnightly meeting of the Hongkong Sanitary Board was held on Thursday afternoon. The President (Dr. J. M. Atkinson, Principal Civil Medical Officer) presided, and there were also present the Vice-President (the Hon. F. H. May, Captain Superintendent of Police), the Hon. R. D. Ormsby (Director of Public Works), Mr. E. Osborne, Dr. Clark (Medical Officer of Health), and Mr. C. W. Duggan (Secretary).

#### THE INSANITARY PROPERTIES BILL.

The following letter, dated Oct. 2nd, was read from the Colonial Secretary:—

"With reference to the resolution of the Sanitary Board passed on 28th ult., and embodied in your letter of the 29th, I am directed to state for the information of the Sanitary Board that the introduction of the Insanitary Properties Bill has been delayed to enable the facts contained in the return of cases of bubonic plague to be placed in the possession of the members of the Legislative Council."

#### APPLICATION FROM MONG KOK TSUI.

An application was submitted by Messrs. Palmer and Turner, architects, for permission to retain yard bridges of a greater width than 3 feet 6 inches in 17 new houses at Mong Kok Tsui. It was pointed out that the yards to these houses are exceptionally wide, viz., 8 feet 6 inches; also that there is a lane 10 feet wide at the back of the houses.

Dr. Clark minuted—"I recommend that permission be granted by the Board to retain these bridges of a width of 4 feet 2 inches."

Mr. Osborne minuted—"Grant permission."

The Hon. R. D. Ormsby minuted—"Approve extra width."

On the motion of the Hon. R. D. ORMSBY, seconded by Dr. CLARK, the application was granted.

#### THE NEW TERRITORY.

The SECRETARY submitted draft Bill to extend certain laws into portions of the New Territory.

#### THE INSPECTOR'S QUARTER'S AT KENNEDYTOWN.

The question of adding another storey to the Inspector's quarters at Kennedytown came up.

The PRESIDENT said that not only Inspector Watson but other inspectors who had lived in the house had had fever. The accommodation was not what it should be for a married inspector. Building another storey would probably render the house more healthy, and he moved that the Government be requested to erect another storey to the house.

The VICE-PRESIDENT seconded, and the motion was carried.

#### HYDROPHOBIA.

In a minute to the President, Dr. Clark said—I regret to report that a coolie named Wong Pon died at the Tung Wah Hospital on the 4th inst from hydrophobia. It is now five years since a death from this disease was reported and I think the occurrence

of this case is ample justification for the regulations which I urged upon the Board last year, and which were finally adopted in March last. The deceased man was engaged as a ricksha coolie by Mr. Michael, and lived at College Chambers. He was bitten by a dog (breed at present unknown) on August 25 last, at about 8 p.m. and I understand that the dog was subsequently killed by P. C. Landers, and the carcass sent to the Government Civil Hospital. The man was ill for two or three days before admission to the hospital. In view of the reported prevalence of rabies at Nagasaki, I strongly recommend the Board to advise the Government to prohibit the importation of dogs from Japan for a period of not less than six months from this date; the order of prohibition against Shanghai does not expire until March 20 next. I understand that both this coolie and an amah, who was also bitten by this dog, were treated in the Civil Hospital for their wounds at the time.

Dr. Atkinson replied—The importation of dogs from Nagasaki should certainly be prohibited. The coolie and amah were admitted to the Hospital on 25th August with dog bites and were discharged, one on the 27th August and the other on the 1st September. The body of the dog, a mongrel terrier, was examined at the Government Civil Hospital, and had evidently died of rabies. The master of the coolie and amah was advised to send the patients to Saigon or Shanghai for treatment.

On the motion of Dr. CLARK, seconded by Mr. OSBORNE, it was decided to recommend the Government to prohibit the importation of dogs from Japan for a period of not less than six months, in consequence of the outbreak of hydrophobia there.

#### A WELL TO BE CLOSED.

On the motion of Dr. CLARK, seconded by the Hon. R. D. ORMSBY, it was decided to close a well at 88, Queen's Road Central, as being injurious to health.

#### ANALYST'S REPORT.

Mr. F. Browne, Government Analyst, reported that during the quarter ended September 30th he had examined four samples of milk (one genuine and three adulterated), one of beer (genuine), three of brandy (genuine), one of rum (genuine) and two of whisky (genuine).

#### THE PLAGUE.

A report was submitted from Calcutta to the effect that Bashire in the Persian Gulf is declared free from plague.

A report was submitted by the Portuguese Consul-General that the plague is abating in Oporto and that only a few cases had resulted fatally.

Copies of General Department Notifications imposing plague regulations at ports in Burma against vessels from Swatow and from Portuguese parts were submitted.

#### MORTALITY STATISTICS.

The mortality returns from Macao for the week ended September 17th showed 51 deaths (three from plague), and for the following week 59 deaths (including four from plague).

The mortality statistics for the colony of Hongkong for the week ended September 23rd showed a death rate of 22, against 25.2 for the previous week and 18.3 for the corresponding week last year. The rate for the succeeding week was 22.8, against 17.4 for the corresponding week last year.

#### LIMEWASHING.

Mr. OSBORNE said that this was nearly the end of the second week in October, and there were 2,260 tenements which should have been cleansed during the months of September and October still untouched. Out of 2,645 tenements in the Central Division only 385 had been cleansed. They seemed to have very soon forgotten the lessons of the recent outbreak of plague, and he therefore begged to move that they resume the advertisements in the newspapers reminding property owners of their duties in this respect.

The PRESIDENT—Don't you think we had better have notices issued from the Registrar General's department? A great many Chinese never see the newspapers.

Mr. OSBORNE remarked that the advertisements could be put in the Chinese newspapers. As the Medical Officer of Health had pointed out, the best method was to fine offenders. He



moved that advertisements be inserted in the Chinese newspapers.

The VICE-PRESIDENT seconded, and the motion was carried.

#### NO PLAGUE CASES IN HONGKONG.

Dr. CLARK said that one other point arising out of the mortality statistics was that that was the 10th day and no cases or deaths from bubonic plague had occurred in the colony, and he thought they might say that for the present they were free from plague. No. 9 district was declared infected in April, and then Nos. 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, and 10 districts. He thought it had not been customary in the past to make any declaration, but he thought it would be well to recommend the Government to issue clean bills of health from this date in consequence of the cessation of plague. He moved that the Board recommend the Government to do this.

Mr. OSBORNE seconded, and the motion was carried.

This was all the business.

#### THE SPANISH PRIZES AT KOWLOON.

##### CONTRACTOR'S TRIAL TRIP.

The contractors' trial trip in connection with the *Isla de Luzon* took place on the 6th instant under the Superintendence of Mr. David Gillies, chief manager, and Mr. R. Cooke, assistant manager of the Hongkong Dock Company, Limited. She left the Dock at nine o'clock, and when outside Green Island steamed at the rate of 12 knots to the naval testing course between Cape D'Aguilar and Deep Bay. She made four trips over the course. Her best record was eight minutes and 27 seconds. Against a heavy tide and wind she made the course in nine minutes 25 seconds. She burned Japanese coal, and there was no forced draught. Everyone on board was much pleased with her performance. It is believed that she will easily average, when in proper shape, 14 knots without forced draught. She has new engines but her original boilers. When Armstrongs turned out the vessel, the *Isla de Cuba*, they got up a speed of 16 knots using the best coal and without forced draught. The *Isla de Luzon* will be ready to make her final trial trip under the command of U.S. naval officers in about a month from now, when she will in all probability proceed direct to Manila. The other two ships will be ready soon afterwards.

Among those present at the trial trip were Lieut. Hobson, Consul-General Wildman, Commander Walling, U.S.N., and Chief Engineer Burgdorff. The vessel got back to the Dock at about half-past one.

#### RAID ON TRIAD SOCIETIES.

Captain Superintendent May returned from the New Territory on Sunday. He had been away a week, during which time he was busily engaged in connection with the suppression of the Triad Societies with which the New Territory is honeycombed. As the result about 23 arrests were made, and the arrests gave universal satisfaction to the different communities who have so long been terrorised by these ruffians.

The raids were made on the early morning of the 3rd October, five parties of police being engaged. One party under the Captain Superintendent took in hand the villages extending from Taipo to the frontier, another headed by Lance-Sergeant Grant visited the villages in the immediate vicinity of Taipo; another in charge of Chief-Detective-Inspector Hanson raided Kat-O and neighbourhood; Detective Sergeants Sullivan and Sim directed operations at Saikong; and Inspector Macdonald headed a party which searched Tsin Wan and neighbourhood.

At Tsin Wan five men were arrested, and almost a complete set of Triad Society insignia was seized at a village called Kowloon Hang, about three miles from the frontier. Two men were arrested at Kat-O who took part in a disturbance last year. These men came over to Hongkong and their extradition was applied for but refused. They had previously been imprisoned at Namtan for being members of a Triad Society, but they managed to escape from gaol, and a reward of \$300 was offered by the Chinese authorities for their capture. Latterly they have been living in the neighbourhood of Cha

Tau Kok. As soon as the police had arrested them they got evidence implicating them with black-mailing the boat population at Kat-O, one of them being also charged with committing a rape on a married woman in the presence of her husband. This man has been committed for trial by Mr. Hallifax.

The police have experienced the greatest difficulty in getting evidence, the villagers of Kat-O having cleared out altogether in order to avoid being implicated in the prosecution.

##### PROCEEDINGS AT THE MAGISTRACY.

At the Magistracy on Monday afternoon, before Mr. Gompertz (Acting Police Magistrate), Kwok Lee was charged with demanding money with menaces from Au Luk, a fisherman living at Kat O. He had already been committed for trial for rape.

Captain Superintendent May conducted the case for the prosecution.

The complainant said he had known the defendant between one and two years. On the 15th day of the 6th moon the defendant came to his boat between seven and eight o'clock in the evening and wanted to squeeze \$2 out of him. He said if he had not got \$2 for him he would rob him; and the complainant replied, "I belong to a fishing boat, where have I got \$2?" The defendant asked him again for the money and consequently the complainant said he would pawn some clothing and get the money in that way, and he did so, handing the money to the defendant. The complainant's wife was in the boat at the time, and saw him take the clothing and pay the money. He had since redeemed the clothing for \$2.10.

The wife of the previous witness corroborated. Au Ying San, a fisherman at Kat-O gave evidence as to the clothing in question being pawned with him for \$2.

The Captain Superintendent said he could multiply these cases, but as usual among the Chinese many people had run away for fear of being implicated in the prosecutions. The defendant had already been committed on a serious charge, and he asked His Worship to commit him on this charge as well.

His Worship—How was he arrested?

The Captain-Superintendent—I will call evidence of arrest.

Chief Detective Inspector Hanson said that on the 3rd inst. about 9-30 a.m. he arrested the defendant when in the act of leaving a boat and getting into a smaller one near the beach on the west side of the village of Kat-O. The boat which the defendant came out of was a new boat and did not appear to have been used for fishing. The defendant had in his possession certain Triad Society papers attached to the depositions in another case.

The case was remanded.

#### HONGKONG NO LONGER AN INFECTED PORT.

##### REMOVAL OF THE PROHIBITION OF CHINESE EMIGRATION.

The following letter has been addressed by the Government to the Chamber of Commerce:—  
Colonial Secretary's Office,  
Hongkong, 12th October, 1899.

Sir,—I am directed to inform you that the following telegram has been received from the Colonial Secretary of the Straits Settlements, Singapore:—

"Prohibition of Chinese emigration removed. Chinese emigrants will be put in quarantine. Hongkong quarantine will be removed when duly certified no cases for 10 days. Please report whether any fresh cases sporadic or otherwise."

The Singapore Government has been duly informed by telegram to-day that there has been no case of plague for ten consecutive days.—I have, etc.,

J. H. STEWART LOCKHART.

Colonial Secretary.

The Secretary, Chamber of Commerce.

At Saigon, on the 18th September, Lieutenant Sicard, the commander of the French gunboat *Caronade*, killed himself with a revolver-shot in a hack carriage in the street. The deceased had a stroke of the sun, and it is supposed that the suicide resulted from an attack of fever.

#### THE APPROPRIATION BILL.

The following is the expenditure authorised by the Appropriation Bill for next year:—

Charge on account of Public Debt...	\$160,808.00
Pensions .....	170,000.00
Governor and Legislature .....	42,303.00
Colonial Secretary's Department .....	40,563.00
Audit Department .....	10,000.00
Treasury .....	26,564.00
Public Works Department .....	91,402.00
Post Office .....	259,124.00
Registrar General's Department .....	13,471.00
Harbour Master's Department .....	76,248.00
Lighthouses .....	13,870.00
Observatory .....	13,676.00
Botanical and Afforestation Department .....	18,914.40
Legal Departments, .....	71,182.00
Ecclesiastical, .....	2,200.00
Education .....	74,807.00
Medical Departments, .....	114,137.00
Magistracy, .....	18,400.00
Police, .....	495,876.00
Sanitary Department, .....	124,746.00
Charitable Allowances, .....	5,260.00
Transport, .....	3,000.00
Miscellaneous Services, .....	201,999.00
Contribution towards "Barrack Services," .....	45,000.00
Colonial Defences.—Expenses of the Volunteers, .....	30,000.00
Contribution towards Defence Works, .....	20,000.00
Public Works, Recurrent, .....	207,000.00
	<b>\$2,350,511.00</b>

##### Public Works, Extraordinary viz.:

(Chargeable to General Revenue.)

New Law Courts, .....	\$20,000
Public Works Department Store, .....	3,000
No. 7 Police Station, and Branch at Kennedytown, .....	12,000
Disinfectant Station and Quarters, .....	7,000
Public Latrines, .....	5,000
Electric Lighting, Government House, .....	3,000
Forming and Kerbing Streets, .....	10,000
Extensions of Gas Lighting, .....	1,500
Improvement of Gas Lighting, .....	2,000
Governor's Peak Residence, .....	15,000
Laying out Farm Lot No. 1, &c., Yau-mat, .....	6,000
Stores Account, .....	100
Pokfulam Conduit Road, .....	5,000
Praya Reclamation, .....	10,000
Praya Reclamation—Government Piers, .....	10,000
Gaol Extension, .....	12,000
Sewerage of Victoria, .....	5,000
Drainage Works, Miscellaneous, .....	10,000
Quarters for Gaol Staff, .....	41,500
Swine Depot, Kennedytown, .....	5,000
Police Station, Sai-kung, .....	5,000
Do., Sha-tin, .....	5,000
Do., Tsin Wan, .....	5,000
Do., Starling Inlet, .....	5,000
Taipo Road, .....	30,000
Pier in Deep Water Taipo, .....	5,000
Survey of New Territory, .....	20,000
	<b>258,100.00</b>

(Chargeable to Water Account.)

Taitam Waterworks Extension, .....	15,000
City of Victoria and Hill District Waterworks, .....	27,000
Water Supply, Kowloon, .....	20,000
Water Account, (Meters, &c.), .....	5,000
Waterworks, Miscellaneous, .....	6,000
	<b>73,000.00</b>

Total .....

**\$2,631,651.00**

On the last voyage down of the *Kuivensberg* from Kiochow to Shanghai a number of small birds came on board, but among them was a sparrowhawk, which was on the awning and one of the passengers caught it, and it then had in its claws a smaller bird. On examination, the hawk was found to have attached to it a label and a small bell, while on one of its legs was a piece of blue string. Evidently, the hawk belonged to somebody and had escaped by biting through its string.—*Union*.



**OUTRAGE NEAR KOWLOON CITY.****AN INDIAN CONSTABLE BADLY ASSAULTED.**

As an Indian constable was returning from his beat near Kowloon City at about five o'clock on Monday morning he was set upon by a couple of Chinamen armed with knives. He was stabbed about the head and thrown to the ground. His assailants robbed him of his carbine and watch and then made off. The constable, who was bleeding freely, was too seriously injured to follow them and it was with the greatest difficulty that he succeeded in reaching the Police Station. He now lies in a precarious condition at the Government Civil Hospital.

**CHINA TRADERS' INSURANCE COMPANY, LIMITED.**

The 33rd ordinary meeting of shareholders in the above Company was held in the offices, Queen's Buildings, on Tuesday at noon. Mr. J. Thurburn presided, and there were also present Messrs. A. J. Raymond, A. Haupt, E. Goetz (directors), A. S. Garfit (Acting Secretary), Hon. C. P. Chater, J. Wheeler, G. H. Potts, W. H. Dann, E. Osborne, J. Orange, G. de Champeaux, D. Gillies, Richardson, G. T. Veitch, R. H. Hill, F. D. Goddard, G. Stewart, C. Palmer, and J. C. Peter.

The Secretary read the notice convening the meeting.

The CHAIRMAN said—Gentlemen, before proceeding with the business of the meeting, I would on behalf of the directors express the pleasure they have in meeting the shareholders in our new offices, which I think you will agree are more worthy of being the head office of this company than those we lately vacated. The present offices are far more convenient and healthier for the staff, and we were fortunate in securing them easily at a very moderate rental, the increased cost to the Company being under \$900 a year. Turning to the report, which, following our usual custom, I presume you will take as read, you may remember that when we last met I remarked that, although it was then too early to speak with confidence of the prospects of the then current year, I ventured to hope that when we next met we should be able to present a much better report than the one it was our duty last year to lay before you, and if you compare our present accounts with those of twelve months ago you will see that my guarded prophecy has been fulfilled. The outlook, however, for marine insurance business is not particularly bright. Rates with few exceptions show no general improvement, and I am afraid I should hardly be justified in holding out hopes of any immediate change for the better. It is some satisfaction to know that we are meanwhile holding our own, and, when any improvement does take place, we shall doubtless reap our full share of the benefit. Our loans on mortgage have been submitted to the usual annual scrutiny, and Messrs. Palmer & Turner report them to be satisfactory, and that the margins are most ample. I very much regret to inform you that our London Manager, Mr. Waldemar Schmidt, has been compelled owing to ill-health to tender his resignation. Mr. Schmidt joined the Company and opened the London Branch in 1875, and the directors gladly avail of this opportunity to acknowledge his long and valuable services. I am pleased to be able to add that the London Branch will still in a measure enjoy the benefit of Mr. Schmidt's experience, as he has accepted a seat on the London Committee. The directors have appointed Mr. Garfit as his successor, and he will shortly leave for home to take up his new duties, and Mr. Wadman will become Acting Secretary pending Mr. Ray's return. Before moving the adoption of the report, I shall be pleased to reply to any questions that shareholders may wish to ask.

No questions being asked, the report and balance-sheet were adopted, on the motion of the CHAIRMAN, seconded by Mr. WHEELLEY.

On the motion of Mr. OSBORNE, seconded by Mr. POTS, the appointment of Mr. Goetz as a director to fill the vacancy caused by the retirement of Mr. C. Benemann who has left the colony, was confirmed.

Messrs. J. Thurburn and A. J. Raymond were re-elected directors, on the motion of the Hon. C. P. CHATER, seconded by Mr. PALMER.

On the motion of Mr. HILL, seconded by Mr. PETER, Messrs. T. Arnold and H. U. Jeffries were re-elected auditors.

The CHAIRMAN—That concludes the business, gentlemen. I thank you for your attendance. Dividend warrants will be ready to-morrow.

**UNION INSURANCE SOCIETY OF CANTON, LIMITED.**

The 26th ordinary meeting of shareholders in the above company was held at the head office, No. 1, Queen's Buildings, on Thursday at noon. Mr. E. S. Wheeler presided, and there were also present Messrs. H. L. Dalrymple, N. A. Siebs, R. H. Hill, A. G. Wood (directors), Douglas Jones (secretary), David Gillies, J. H. Cox, C. H. Thompson, J. C. Peter, T. W. Richardson, F. D. Goddard, R. M. Gray, H. W. Slade, H. J. M. Carvalho, G. W. F. Playfair, H. E. Tomkins, and L. M. Alvarez and J. A. Carvalho.

The SECRETARY read the notice convening the meeting.

The CHAIRMAN said—Gentlemen, with your permission we will take the report and accounts as read. The accounts are very full, and there is little in them to which I need refer. The net premium for 1898 shows an increase of some \$430,000, whilst the losses show an increase of \$360,000 over the previous year, and the result of the year's working is that we were again able to pay a bonus to contributing shareholders of 20 per cent. and to propose a dividend of \$18, or 36 per cent., as compared with a dividend of \$17 paid last year, and at the same time we are able to increase the reserve fund by \$60,000. With regard to the 1899 accounts, you will notice that the balance at credit at the 30th June was \$1,194,031.00, a sum considerably in excess of that of any preceding half-year, and the same may be said of the estimated balance at credit at 30th September, but it is of course a great deal too early to form any estimate of the result of the year's working, though we have so far every reason to hope that it will turn out favourably. Turning to the balance-sheet you will notice that the investment fluctuation account is less by \$16,000, which is due to the fall in value of sterling securities; exchange fluctuation account is less by \$13,000 owing to exchange being higher at the end of our half year than at its commencement. You will also notice that the sterling securities have been increased by £30,000. Staff: I am sure that the shareholders will join with the Board in regretting that Mr. M. P. Jukes has decided to retire from business at the end of this year. Mr. Jukes joined the service of the Society in 1874, when our London branch was opened, and he has been the agent of the Society in London from that date. Our London business forms a very important part of our business, and under Mr. Jukes' management has been conducted with conspicuous success. The Board had no hesitation in agreeing with the London Committee that Mr. Jukes' long and successful services should be recognised by the Society by presenting him with an honorarium of £3,000 on his retirement. Mr. Douglas Jones, our Secretary, has been appointed agent in London in succession to Mr. Jukes, whilst Mr. H. C. Saunders, who has been many years Mr. Jukes' assistant in the London office, has been appointed underwriter. Mr. W. J. Saunders being appointed Secretary in Hongkong. Before moving the adoption of the report and accounts I shall be very glad to answer any questions any gentleman would like to ask.

There being no questions the report and accounts were adopted, on the motion of the CHAIRMAN, seconded by Mr. RICHARDSON.

On the motion of Mr. GILLIES, seconded by Mr. GRAY, Messrs. E. S. Wheeler and A. J. Wood were re-elected directors.

Messrs. J. H. Cox and W. Hutton Potts were re-elected auditors, on the motion of Mr. THOMPSON, seconded by Mr. SLADE.

The CHAIRMAN—That is all the business before the meeting, gentlemen. We thank you for your attendance. Dividend warrants will be ready to-morrow.

The house of Mr. A. R. Owen on the Bluff, Yokohama, was burnt down on the 23rd September. It was insured for 2,000 yen in the Imperial, and the contents in the Hongkong Fire.

**THE YOKOHAMA SPECIE BANK, LIMITED.**

The following is the report submitted at the half-yearly general meeting held at the head office, Yokohama, on the 9th September—

Gentlemen, The Directors submit to you the annexed Statement of the Liabilities and Assets of the Bank, and Profit and Loss Account for the half-year, ending June 30th, 1899.

Gross Profits of the Bank for the past half-year, including yen 362,303, brought forward from last Account, amount to yen 5,551,285, of which yen 4,033,427 have been deducted for current expenses, interest on deposits, &c., leaving a balance of yen 1,517,858, out of which yen 69,333 have been written off for Officers' Remuneration.

The Directors now propose that yen 200,000 be added to the Reserve Fund, increasing it to yen 7,500,000, be set aside for the contemplated New Building. From the remainder the Directors recommend a dividend at the rate of fifteen per cent., per annum, which will absorb yen 450,000 on the Old Shares, and yen 397,500 on the New Shares, making a total of yen 787,500.

The balance, yen 411,025 will be carried forward to the credit of next account.

NAGANATE SOMA Chairman.

Head Office, Yokohama, 9th September, 1899.

At an Extraordinary General Meeting of Shareholders of the Bank, held on the 9th of September, 1899, it was decided that the capital should be increased by yen 12,000,000, thus raising it to yen 24,000,000; that the new shares issued be allotted to the shareholders on the 31st of December, 1899, at the face value of yen 100 each; that on each of these new shares yen 50 be paid in March, 1900; and that the balance be called up when the Board of Directors deems it necessary to do so.

**THE JELEBU MINING AND TRADING CO. LIMITED.**

We give below the directors' report and accounts for the period from February 9th to August 6th last of the Jelebu Mining and Trading Co. The report says:—

Your Directors beg to submit a statement of the Company's accounts for the period from 6th February to 6th August, 1899, being the first half of the eleventh year of the Company's existence by the Chinese calendar. As will be seen from the working accounts, a profit of \$15,369 has been made during the half year on alluvial ore as compared with \$10,661 in the corresponding previous half year. The Manager reports the advances to be safe.

The outlay on the Rin Lode for the half year amounted to \$19,083, which, together with \$17,379 spent on lode machinery, and with the earlier expenditure, brings the total sum standing to the debit of the account to \$98,471. Though about \$117,000 have been spent on the lode, it is valued at only \$98,471 in the Company's books. That amount is considered a good asset. The lode may now be considered to have been thoroughly proved. Most of the machinery has been erected, and the first crushing will probably take place during the first fortnight of November. Below will be found an extract from the Mine Manager's report, dated 1st September, 1899, giving particulars of the present position of the lode. These particulars fully bear out former expectations. After writing off the usual depreciation, there remains at the debit of profit and loss account the sum of \$57,969, as against \$69,793 at the end of the previous half year. That reduced debit balance your Directors propose to carry forward.

(Sd.) J. P. JOAQUIM, ARNOT REID, Directors.  
HUTTENBACH BROTHERS & Co. General Agents.

Extract from the Mine Manager's report on the Rin lode, dated 1st September, 1899:—The number of lodes on which work has been carried on are three, known as Nos. I, II, and III Lodes.

No.	2ft. 6in.	3 per cent	black tin.
" I	3ft.	3 per cent	"
" III	1ft.	1 per cent	"
" I	2ft. 6in.	3 per cent	"
" II	3ft. 6in.	4 per cent	"
" I	3ft. 6in.	4 per cent	"
" II	2ft. 6in.	2 per cent	"



[The first three estimates are at the Adit level, the fourth and fifth at the 80 ft. level, and the last two at the 160 ft. level].

At this level we are now cross-cutting for the No. III Lode.

Quantity of lode stuff in sight is about 65,000 tons and 4,500 tons at grass, of which about half contains 34 per cent and the other half 2 per cent of black tin.

The general prospects of the mine are very good indeed, and quite up to expectation. For the past six months the percentage of black tin in the various lodes has been rather better than in the previous six months.

#### BALANCE SHEET FOR THE HALF-YEAR ENDED 6TH AUGUST, 1899.

LIABILITIES.	
To capital .....	\$225,000
To dividends unpaid .....	646
To charges and creditors .....	20,390
	\$245,946

ASSETS.	
By cost of houses, coolies quarters and godowns .....	\$3,981
By additions to property .....	1,726
	\$5,707
Less 25 per cent. written off .....	1,426
	4,280

By cost of furniture, trade-utensils, plant, water-ways, and roads .....	\$2,675
Additions .....	330
	\$2,405
Less 15 per cent. written off .....	360
	2,045

By cost of 16 bullocks and 8 carts .....	\$450
Depreciation written off .....	82
	268

By cost of ore-bags .....	\$509
Additions to stock .....	170
	\$679
Depreciation written off .....	170
	500

By advances .....	13,861
By value of ore in stock on 6th August, 1899 ..	42,862
By cash .....	8,577
By sundry debtors .....	71
	\$62,009

By previous expenditure.	
By expenditure during the half-year .....	19,083
By machinery, &c. ....	17,379
	98,471

GENERAL.	
By cash in hands of General Agents .....	121
By amounts at bankers .....	15,338
By sundry debtors .....	1,482
By balance of profit and loss .....	57,969
	\$73,401

\* All the Jelebu ore has since been sold and delivered, and the valuation is based on the proceeds.

WORKING ACCOUNT OF JELEBU FOR THE HALF-YEAR.	
To 25 per cent. written off from buildings and plant at Jelebu .....	\$1,426
To 15 per cent. written off from furniture and trade utensils .....	360
To depreciation written off from ore-bags .....	170
To depreciation written off from carts .....	82
To general charges at Jelebu and bonus to General Manager .....	4,735
Balance .....	15,369

	\$22,144
By Royalty and profit on ore .....	\$21,350
By profit on general business .....	794
	\$22,144

Net profit for the half-year .....	\$15,369
PROFIT AND LOSS.	

To balance .....	\$69,793
General charges at Singapore .....	
To directors' and auditors' fees .....	\$ 800
To trade expenses, stationery, etc. ....	290
To agents' commission .....	2,518
	3,608
	\$73,401

By net profit of Jelebu for the half-year .....	\$15,369
By bank interest .....	62
By balance of loss from last account .....	\$69,793
By loss profit for half-year .....	11,833
	57,969
	\$73,401

(Cents have been omitted.)

The master of the German barque *Silo* reports having spoken the American ship *Emily Reed* on the 17th ultimo in Banka Straits with a cargo of kerosine oil for Hongkong, but as the vessel was leaking to the extent of 4 inches an hour the master intended making for Singapore.

### FOOTBALL.

Saturday terminated the first week of the football season. From appearances Association players must have been eagerly awaiting its beginning for they lost no time in commencing operations. During this one week no fewer than 66 players took the field in the six-a-side games by promoted the Hongkong Football Club and the V.R.C. Evidently neither Club has any lack of material from which to construct its team.

#### THE HONGKONG FOOTBALL CLUB SIX-A-SIDE COMPETITION.

The Hongkong Football Club has seven teams in its six-a-side competition. As each team has to meet every other team once, there will be a total of 21 games. The result will be arrived at on the League principle. Six games were decided up to Saturday and resulted as follows:—

				goals
Oct. 2nd	Kew	beat	Greene ... ..	1 to 0
" "	Mayson	drew	with Lowe ... ..	0 to 0
" 3	Looker	" "	Pinckney ... ..	1 to 1
" 4	Noble	beat	Kew... ..	1 to 0
" 5	Mayson	"	Pinckney ... ..	1 to 0
" 6	Greene	"	Looker ... ..	2 to 0

The subjoined table shows the positions of the teams at date. Although Mayson stands at the head, an analysis will shew that Noble is in the best position, as he has obtained his possible points, whereas, Mayson has only 3 out of a possible 4. However, it is early yet to form an opinion as to the winner:—

	Played.	Won.	Lost.	Drawn.	Goals for.	Against.	Points.
Lowe	1	1	0	0	0	0	1
Looker	2	0	1	1	1	3	0
Mayson	2	1	0	1	1	0	3
Kew	2	1	1	0	1	1	2
Greene	2	1	1	0	2	1	2
Noble	1	1	0	0	1	0	2
Pinckney	2	0	1	1	1	2	1

#### THE V.R.C. SIX-A-SIDE COMPETITION.

The V.R.C. is working its competition in the same manner as the Hongkong F.C., but as it has only 6 teams the total number of games is reduced to 15. Only 2 contests have as yet taken place. On the 4th October, Duncan beat Tuohy by goals 2 to 0, and on the 6th October, Craig and Yule drew with 3 goals each.

The following table shows the state of the competition at date:—

	Played.	Won.	Lost.	Drawn.	Goals for.	Against.	Points.
Duncan	1	1	0	0	2	0	2
Craig	1	0	0	1	3	3	1
Yule	1	0	0	1	3	3	1
Tuohy	1	0	1	0	0	2	0
Henderson	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Smillie	—	—	—	—	—	—	—

#### PROSPECTS FOR THE SEASON.

Rugby football does not thrive in Hongkong (perhaps for the reason that it is easier to muster eleven men than fifteen), but not so with the sister game of soccer. The interest taken in the latter has been steadily on the increase for the last four or five years and indications are abundant that it will be greater than ever this year. The Hongkong Football Club, holders of the Challenge Shield, should be even stronger this year, as, with the exception of Anton, all last season's team is available, and in addition it has several new members, just out from home, who have good reputations. Whether these latter will be justified or no, of course, remains to be seen.

Of the military teams we have heard little, but have no doubt that both the 38th Co. R.A. (last year's finalists) and the 25th S.D., R.A., will put good elevens on the field. The Royal Welch Fusiliers did not distinguish themselves last season, but may be will do better this. The naval teams are to us an unknown quantity.

There is much expected from a club which has just been formed, viz., The Hongkong Engineers F.C. It has an excellent secretary in Mr. A. Ritchie, who is supported by a strong committee. Added to this it has, as a backbone for its team, all the best men of the old Kow-

loon Club, so its success may be looked on as certain. We understand that a ground has been assigned it at Causeway Bay.

The V. R. C. has had a big increase in membership and its players are practising very enthusiastically and are confident they will give a good account of themselves. This club, although an old one, has always had a struggling existence both under its old name of "The Colts" and under its present title, but still it has managed to keep going. This season its prospects are better than ever before; it has been allotted a ground on the Happy Valley, which will enable it to play much more regularly than before; and, moreover, it has a larger member of young and promising members than ever previously. The secretary has applied, we are told, for a representative on the Shield Committee.

We notice that the Shield Competition has been arranged to start in November. No doubt the committee has excellent reasons for making this early commencement, but we fail to see how it can be an improvement. If left over until January all the clubs would have time to get into order, but beginning so soon after the commencement of the season leaves no time for the arranging and selecting of teams. However, as I stated before, no doubt the committee has reason for this apparently unseemly hurry.

### CRICKET.

#### FIRST TWELVE V. THE REST.

The opening match of the season took place on Saturday, when the First Twelve, captained by Captain Langhorne, R.A., took on the Rest of the Club, with Dr. Lawson at their head. The rain interfered considerably with the play, and the match could not be played out. Dr. Lawson won the toss and sent in Dr. Tuck and J. E. Lee. The latter was caught by Lowe when 13, of which he had contributed 11, had been scored. Lieut. Strong, who followed, was caught when the board announced 30, and F. F. Walwyn was dismissed when eight more had been added. At 42 Dr. Tuck was bowled by Lowe. The score continued to creep up until 168 had been reached, when all the Rest had been disposed of. The highest score was made by Lieut. Isat, whose 29 included one 5, three 4's, three 2's, and six 1's. For the Twelve Lieut. Campbell and H. Hancock batted first, the former having 30 not out to his credit when the stumps were drawn. Score:—

THE REST.	
Dr. Tuck, R.N. b Lowe	17
J. E. Lee, c Lowe b Vallings	11
Lieut. Strong, R.M.L.I., c Ward, b Lowe	5
F. F. Walwyn, R.W.F., b Mackenzie	5
R. W. Castle, R.A., c Hill, b Vallings	21
A. Humphreys, b Hancock	4
L. E. Lammert, b Hancock	0
A. G. Stokes, c and b Vallings	3
Capt. Warren, R.A., b Hancock	0
A. S. Garfit, c Thompson, b Vallings	1
H. E. Green, l.b.w. Vallings	4
Lt. Wilkinson, R.A., c Campbell, b Hancock	6
H. A. Lewis, R.A., c and b Lowe	14
E. G. S. Henn, R.N., l.b.w. Hancock	20
A. C. R. Greene, R.A., c Mackenzie, b Lowe	8
Lt. Isat, R.A., c Hill, b Vallings	29
Capt. Simmons, R.A., c Vallings, b Hancock	0
Gill, R.N., run out	0
Hires, c Thompson, b Vallings	0
Dr. Lawson, not out	7
R. J. Gerrard, c Burrie, b Hancock	5
Extras	8

Total .....

#### BOWLING ANALYSIS.

	Overs.	Maid.	Runs.	Wides.	N.B.	Wickets.
Vallings	18	4	46	—	—	7
Lowe	17	2	44	—	—	4
Mackenzie	11	4	20	—	—	1
Hancock	15.1	4	32	—	—	7
Langhorne	4	—	18	—	—	—

#### THE XII.

Lt. Campbell, H.K.R., not out	30
H. Hancock, b Benn	0
P. A. Cox, b Benn	8
A. G. Ward, c Humphreys, b Isat	19
Hill, R.W.F., not out	3
Capt. Langhorne, R.A.	
Johnston, R.W.F.	
Rev. Vallings	
C. M. R. Burnie	did not bat
A. Mackenzie	
Lowe	
Thompson, R.A.	
Extras	5

Total .....



## BOWLING ANALYSIS.

	Overs.	Maid.	Runs.	Wides.	N.B.	Wickets.
Benn .....	8	—	17	—	—	2
H. E. Green...	3	—	11	—	—	—
Stokes .....	4	1	16	—	—	—
Ist .....	5	—	11	—	—	1
Lee.....	8	—	5	—	—	—

## THE ROYAL HONGKONG GOLF CLUB.

## QUARTERLY MEETING.

There was a fair attendance again on the links, but only a few cards were handed in. A tie resulted for all the events, as the undernoted returns show:—

## MACEWEN CUP.

Mr. G. H. W. Sexton	103	18	85	} tie
Mr. G. Stewart	89	4	85	
Mr. J. H. T. McMurtin	91	0	91	
Mr. E. E. Deacon	110	18	92	

23 entries.

## POOL.

Mr. P. de C. Morriss	94	9	85	} tie
Mr. G. Stewart	89	4	85	
Mr. J. H. T. McMurtin	91	0	91	

16 entries.

## BOGEY CUP.

Mr. P. de C. Morriss	4 down rec. 7 strokes	} tie
Mr. G. Stewart	4	
Mr. J. H. T. McMurtin	6	
Lieut. Tulloch, R.A.	7	
Mr. E. A. Ram	9	

19 entries.

The tie for the October Captain's Cup resulted in a win for Mr. E. E. Deacon by one stroke.

## CORRESPONDENCE.

[We do not hold ourselves responsible for the opinions expressed by our correspondents.]

## THE CHINESE CUSTOMS SERVICE.—No. 1.

## TO THE EDITOR OF THE "DAILY PRESS."

SIR,—The revenue of the Chinese Imperial Maritime Customs having been pledged to sustain the national credit, and as under the altered circumstances the Service and its condition and workings has become a matter of public interest, I venture to ask for space in your valuable columns in order to point out that although the Service has grown from a nucleus of a few score to thousands, practically nothing has been done in the way of progress or reform, so as keep the Service abreast of the times.

The same old methods that prevailed in the fifties are the rule of to-day, the same old uniform, the same old regulations, in fact the Service is jogging on in the same old way, despite the fact that, octopus like, it has spread its tentacles to some of the remotest parts of China.

I am not now making an attack upon Sir Robert Hart.

The I.M.C. is a public Service and should not be above criticism. No man in the world can hope to escape having his actions subjected to criticism when it is done in the public interest and is decorous and free from personal motive.

Sir Robert Hart has played a great game in China and played it well, but like all other mortals, he has made mistakes and committed errors, some of which might be magnified into grand faults. It is not my purpose to attack or defend a particular individual, but simply to draw attention to the Inspector General of Customs' anti-progressive attitude upon certain questions, and to draw attention to certain great anomalies, which should not be permitted to exist.

With your permission I will reserve this for a future letter.—with the usual apologies. I remain, yours truly,

F.

Hongkong, 6th October, 1899.

## No. 2.

## TO THE EDITOR OF THE "DAILY PRESS."

SIR,—In my last letter I promised to show that the Inspector-General of Customs took up an anti-progressive attitude upon certain questions, and permitted and even encouraged certain gross anomalies. To begin with, let us turn to the question of promotions and transfers. With

regard to promotions, they are frequently so erratic and unreasonable to the "looker on" as to appear positively farcical. I include all branches of the Service, except perhaps the lighthouse staff. Men who have laboured hard and diligently for years are passed over and the plums given to comparative youngsters. Now and again, when a man has been left upon the shelf for perhaps a score of years he seems to be suddenly remembered and is perhaps raised in rank or emolument, but on the whole promotions are marked by a distinct want of system. There is no regulation for gradual rising from class to class, no specified time for an officer to spend in one grade before advancing to another, no test of ability or fitness imposed, and nothing to go by except Commissioners' confidential reports, which are frequently misleading, and in some instances at least confidential reports have degenerated so much as to have become a gross abuse.

Far too much power is placed in the hands of Commissioners. No mere man, no matter how exalted he may be, should be able to make a covert attack on the reputation or ability of a subordinate. If it is impossible to do away with confidential reports, they should be so surrounded by safeguards as to be absolutely reliable. This is very far from being the case at present.

With regard to transfers, they are for the most part anomalous. It is not unusual, for instance, to see one man in the course of a few years jogging from port to port at great expense and immense trouble, while another will be found staying in Shanghai for twenty years or more amid the greatest comforts and conveniences. The opinion very largely prevails in the Service that many promotions are marked by an utter want of excuse and are unjust to those passed over, and that transfers are conducted by rule of thumb.

A glance at the Service list will show how chaotic the Service has become—the A's and B's, the classes, the men who belong to one rank and are doing duty in another, in some cases over their seniors, in short a state of things anomalous and bewildering beyond measure. Some Commissioners have even set up an extra division on their own account, thus making confusion worse confounded.

Some simple and more easily definable system should take the place of the present want of system. Promotion and transfers should be governed by common sense, and all erratic "jumping" carefully avoided. Until this is done discontent will continue to prevail and grow. (To be continued)

B.

Hongkong, 7th October, 1899.

## No. 3.

## TO THE EDITOR OF THE "DAILY PRESS."

SIR,—Having dealt with the question of promotions and transfers in the I. M. Customs, I will now proceed to dissect the much vexed question of privileges. Obviously a matter so surrounded with difficulties needs approaching with considerable circumspection. It is not my wish or intention to give offence to any person, in drawing attention to the enormous difference between the Indoor and the Outdoor Staff. I will deal with this division further on.

I am not actuated by any malicious motive. It is simply my desire to make plain that it is not polite now-a-days to draw class distinctions too fine, nor to confer great privileges upon one division and give practically none to the other. A policy of this kind makes the one branch of the Service selfish and the other discontented. I will first take the question of home leave.

The Indoor Staff man is entitled to two years' leave at the end of seven years' service; the Outdoor man to one year at the end of ten years. Let any body who runs read this and say is it either fair or just.

The Indoor staff serve seven years for one year's pay. The Outdoor ten years.

Quarters—The Indoor mess is always comfortably furnished at the Government expense and is as good a building as the place can afford; the Outdoor gets nothing but a small house allowance; sometimes the same will not even cover the house rent. To any body desirous of fuller information on this point there are districts not a thousand miles from Hong-

kong and Macao which will afford a useful object lesson. In short, the Inspector General shows by his careful consideration on the one hand an utter want of consideration on the other how to distinguish fish and flesh.

A claim, of course, may be made that socially and educationally the Indoor members are superior to the members of the Outdoor Staff. I am not going to contest this point, which may or may not be true. What I will say is this: that after an officer has proved himself capable and efficient, he should not be carelessly thrust between the latest junior 4th Asst. B. It is altogether a pernicious policy and gives the Indoor man a false and exaggerated notion of his own importance. Instances have not been wanting where young cads of a few years' service have created quite a lot of unpleasantness, because the Chief Examiner, perhaps a man practically of twenty or more years' service, did not salute them, it being held that as the Outdoor Staff is an inferior branch of the Service they must salute all members of the Indoor. Nor is this unfair and ludicrous separation due to superior conduct on the part of the Indoor Staff as compared with the Outdoor Staff. It is notorious that during the agitation prior to the increase of pay being granted, the I. G. was being attacked upon various points in the newspapers by the members of the Indoor. Then we have had the abortive attempt at rebellion, the agent of which found his way to Hongkong. Various cases of dishonesty and misconduct have also had to be dealt with. In point of fact, the Outdoor are certainly not in it in many things with certain members of the Indoor. In spite of this the Indoor Staff had their pay doubled. The moral of this is so obvious as to make further comment quite unnecessary and I won't go any further; but simply conclude this article by saying that the policy of dividing the Service by privileging one class and separating it by a very wide chasm from mixing with the other, giving it a spurious hall mark as it were, is both bad in practice and principle, and should be discontinued.—(To be continued.)

B.

Hongkong, 9th October, 1899.

## No. 4.

## TO THE EDITOR OF THE "DAILY PRESS."

SIR,—In order to bring this series to a close I will endeavour to make this letter cover both Lighthouse and Coast Departments. I must premise what I am about to say by stating that I am comparatively ignorant of the feeling in both these branches of the Service, having been rarely brought into contact with them. I have, however, frequently heard that the lighthouse keepers bitterly complain about the long years of confinement they are called upon to endure at comparatively low pay. Every twelve years they are entitled to one year's leave. So frightfully isolate and dull is this life that a certain kind of unmarried union is not only tolerated but countenanced. This is not as it should be in a public service. It would be a thousand times better to have a staff sufficiently large to relieve the men at proper intervals, as is done in every other properly conducted Service. To encourage a state of things such as described is false economy and tends to scandal. They should, as in other places, spend so much time at their lighthouse and so much time at work on shore. In my opinion the British system could very easily be adopted.

The Coast Service is much better in social standing and they get good pay and a certain amount of liberty, yet here again erratic promotions are, or rather were, more or less the rule, and not only is no inducement held out to men to settle down and marry, but marriage is considered a bar.

I believe many of the grievances set forth in these letters are due to the fact that the administration is in the hands of one man, who, however able he may be in the abstract, has not the ability to cope almost alone with so vast an establishment as the I.M.C. has become.

When the Russian Minister was agitating to remove Britishers from the Imperial Service a golden opportunity was lost. The I.M.C. should then have been put into the hands of an International commission. This would have strengthened it and would have obtained for it the support of all the Powers instead of the



qualified support of one. It would have been better for every member of the Service; they would have had more security in their positions against injustice; an appeal would lie, not to one man, who is often prejudiced, but to a properly constituted board, whose decisions would be made public, whose responsibility to the Yamen and bondholders would prevent abuse and be a guarantee for a just and equitable administration.

B.

Hongkong, 10th October, 1899.

### THE INTERPRETER OF THE U. S. CONSULATE AT CANTON AND THE BEDLOE CHARGES.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "DAILY PRESS."

Dear Sir,—A friend handed me a copy of your most valuable and widely read paper *The Hongkong Daily Press* of the 4th inst., in which I was directed to a paragraph under the caption of "The Bedloe Charges," a script you took out from the *New York Herald*. Undoubtedly you must have done it with the best of intentions and never imagined the extent of the injuries it was calculated to inflict and heap upon an already persecuted, abominably treated, weak, friendless, and now suspended Interpreter, Chung of the United States Consulate at Canton. This is indeed "adding insult to injury!"

How plausible an excuse it is for a nation of 80,000,000 to give to the world this impression that their accused officer was perfectly innocent and if he erred at all it was due to the implicit confidence the said honoured officer placed in his lieutenant the Interpreter, thus exonerating the officer and making the poor Interpreter the scapegoat, solely for Uncle Sam's "face" sake and at my friend's heavy expense, a blot upon his character which will probably ruin his entire future. However, Heaven shapes the destiny of man, and it seems that it was His will that poor Chung must suffer, for he has repeatedly appealed to the State Department at Washington, through the proper channels, for justice, but justice seems to be an unknown quantity to the proudest nation in the world. He has been suspended by virtue of an official despatch written and signed by the U.S. Consul-General, Hon. G. Goodnow, and the same was handed to him by the then U.S. Vice-Consul, Mr. Williams, in the office of the U.S. Consulate at Canton on the 25th September, 1898. Three days after the receipt of this he left the office without removing any of his personal properties, nor did he ask for his last quarter's salary, and, before leaving, for three days he was engaged in the gathering up of all the documents for Bedloe to prepare his defence. Afterwards he notified the Consul-General of his new address, and kept up a correspondence with him for quite a long time until subsequently he found that he could communicate with the present acting Consul, with whom he had the pleasure of several personal interviews.

Now, in face of all these facts for the *New York Herald*, the oracle of American Democracy, to state, and you, the best informed paper in China, to repeat, that Bedloe's Interpreter "apparently did not wait to be dismissed, but fled," is indeed a great injustice to him who did his level best to save Uncle Sam's face, in the best manner he could, at the risk of his own interests. It does not seem possible that an American of sound mind could have committed such gross falsehood as quoted above, for that "one may deceive all the people for a part of the time, or some of the people the whole time, but he never can deceive all the people at all times" is true in all instances.

So with these few lines of explanation I hope you will do him the justice Englishmen are wont to bestow upon like occasions, by making "Fair Play" your sole judge of honour and space in your valuable paper the scale of justice.

Thanking you for your patience in the premises, I beg to enclose my card with compliments and subscribe myself, yours,

PERDU.

Macao, 6th October, 1899.

The flags on the steamers *Tsintau* and *Knivberg* were half-masted at Shanghai on 2nd October on receipt by wire of the news of the death of their owner, Mr. Jensen of Apenrade.

### THE MANILA SHARE MARKET.

The issue of a periodical share list at Manila may be regarded as an indication of the increased business activity which the recent changes there are bringing about. Mr. Walter A. Fitton is now publishing a monthly market report, and in the first issue, dated 2nd October, he says:—

"I have commenced this circular to supply what, to my thinking, fills a long-felt want. As our local stock market has up to this received little or no publicity, doubtless the quotations given will cause outside, as well as local, investors to give some attention to same, as the market offers considerable inducements to investors. I would, however, strongly recommend those not on the spot to be careful with whom, and how, they place their money. There are several brokers of repute and long residence here, who will give proper care to any business placed in their hands, and, in case of necessity, doubtless provide any references necessary."

In the list of Companies particulars are given regarding each concern in the same form as in the Hongkong Sharebroker's circular. The following are the Companies, and we reproduce the figures showing the capital, nominal value of shares, and present quotations:—

Stock.	Capital.	Shares.	Paid.	Quotation.
BANK.	\$	\$	\$	up.
Banco Espanol Filipino	1,500,000	200	all	\$320, sales
CIGAR COMPANIES.				
Alhambra	100,000	500	all	100 per cent. prem.
Constancia	44,000	500	all	100 per cent. prem., buyers
Comercial	130,000	500	all	25 per cent. prem., buyers
Germinal	140,000	500	\$80	12 per cent. prem., buyer
DOCK.				
Varadero (Canacao slip)	45,000	100	all	\$105, buyers
SUNDRY.				
Compania Maritima	2,500,000	500	all	\$350, nominal
Electric Light	500,000	25	all	\$25, sales
Telephones	350,000	100	all	\$100, buyers

### AN OUTSIDE VIEW OF THE HONGKONG VOLUNTEERS TRANSVAAL OFFER.

"The Moralist" of the *Straits Times* writes:—

Recent events in the Transvaal have caused quite a flutter of excitement in the Volunteer corps, and I note that several members of the Hongkong detachment have offered their services should hostilities break out. Their Singapore comrades, however, have not brought themselves into conspicuous notice by following their example, as, no doubt, they are aware that any such offer would scarcely receive serious consideration. Unquestionably, the Hongkong members were fired with an ambition to serve their country, and so I venture to say is every volunteer; but the Government won't require the services of any twenty or thirty members from a certain corps to settle this Transvaal dispute.

I am not seeking to belittle the action of the Hongkong Volunteers but it must be remembered that under the Volunteer Enlistment Act, volunteers can only be utilised for home service, or for the Colony in which they agree to serve. In offering themselves for active service they would cease to be volunteers, and have to be accepted as fairly trained recruits for the regular service. I have no possible doubt that on any occasion of extreme emergency a large number of volunteers would be found ready to offer their services on these conditions but such emergency has not yet arisen. Until it does so, it is the main duty of every volunteer to make himself as efficient as possible in drill and discipline and endeavour to keep the detachment up to its full strength, so that he may be fitted, whenever the occasion arises, to take his part in any duty really required of him for the service of his country.

We (*N. C. Daily News*) regret to record the death of Dr. Waldemar Petersen, of the Deutsch-Asiatische Bank, which took place early on the morning of the 5th October, of typhoid fever. Deceased, who was only 25 years of age, was most popular both socially and in his business relations. He was an ardent sportsman, and only quite recently was rowing in the German Four and Eight. The flags on the Club Concordia and the Grand Stand were half-masted as a token of respect.

### A GERMAN VIEW OF GREAT BRITAIN'S CLAIMS IN THE YANGTZE VALLEY.

In an article on the establishment of German lines of steamers on the Yangtze the *Ostasiatische Lloyd* expresses the hope that a German gunboat may be stationed on the river. Our contemporary claims that Germans have done much pioneer work, not alone at Hankow, but also at the other Yangtze towns, and in conclusion says:—

The efforts of England to seize the fruits of German diligence for herself and make the whole of the Yangtze Valley a British domain are too well known to call for repetition. It is also known that the English claims are merely paper claims: they neither are nor will be acknowledged. Already the German flag, both mercantile and naval, regularly appears on the Yangtze and it must be fully known that Germany has not the remotest intention of yielding to British pretensions. No doubt there will be protests, not only from England but also from China. The latter must clearly understand that Germany does not intend to let the whole of the Yangtze Valley fall into the hands of Great Britain. We do not want it for ourselves, but we want equal rights in it with other nations. To secure recognition of those rights it seems to us the proper means is to see that the German flag shall never be absent from the Yangtze.

### THE ANTI-MISSIONARY DISTURBANCES IN FOKIEN.

DENUNCIATION OF OFFICIALS.

The *N. C. Daily News* publishes the following Imperial decree, dated 20th September:—

Hsu Ying-k'uei, Viceroy of the Min-Che provinces, denounces the prefect of Kienningfu on the ground of laziness and love of comfort—(Really for not being energetic enough to stop the recent riots against foreign missionaries.—*Translator*)—and in punishment thereof we hereby command the said prefect, Ch'eng Chia-yu, to be degraded one step, namely, to the rank of a sub-prefect. Yao Ching-yi, district magistrate of Shunoh'anghsien, is also denounced for criminal negligence of his duties and ignorance of judicial procedure, inasmuch that a litigant lost his life; and a military officer, Sun Tung-hsien, Colonel of the Front Battalion of the Fuchiang Brigade, stationed at Ch'uanchow prefecture is charged with keeping lax discipline in his command, so that when recently called upon to keep order among the people the soldiers acted as robbers and pillaged the inhabitants they had been sent to protect. Both the above-named district magistrate and colonel are hereby cashiered and dismissed the service, but as they are also defendants in certain suits brought by people who had suffered through their maladministration, the said cashiered officers are hereby commanded to be imprisoned to await trial and sentence, if found guilty. The Boards of War and of Civil Appointments are commanded to take note.

Commenting on the above the *Foochow Echo* says:—We have not heard much of what was being done in the way of obtaining redress for the sufferings of some of our Missionaries and their converts at Kienningfoo as far back as June last, but it is evident that Mr. Consul Playfair, although exercising the patience necessary in dealing with Chinese, has been firm. Under the heading "Denunciation of Fuhkien Officials" it will be seen that the Viceroy has taken his part in proving to Prefects, Magistrates and Military Officers that they cannot neglect their duty with impunity. There is yet however, we understand, a good deal to be done before Mr. Consul Playfair is satisfied; but as all that is required is now thoroughly understood we hope before long to announce that a settlement has been come to—a settlement that will ensure our Missionaries from trouble in the future at Kienningfoo.

The first Rugby practice of the Hongkong Football Club will be held next Tuesday. Members desiring to participate should put their names down on the board or inform the Hon. Secretary.



## THE MINING REGULATIONS.

When the Tsungli-Yamen conjointly with the Mining and Railway Bureau in Peking altered the existing mining regulations, we took occasion to protest against the amendments and to urge foreign ministers to make a united endeavour to have them changed. Now that the amendments have been studied and discussed by capitalists in London and other western centres, the result of the Chinese action is bearing fruit. Last year half a dozen large companies and several private syndicates were formed in the western world to exploit the mineral resources of China and to, if possible, find a field for the profitable employment of a little of that surplus capital which exists. Engineers and representatives were sent out, and these gentlemen have, quietly and unostentatiously, thoroughly explored the country. In some cases we are in a position to state that their reports were highly satisfactory, but owing to the arbitrary conditions placed upon mining by the Imperial authorities, nothing further is being done. Many of the concerns interested are withdrawing their representatives, and in disgust have decided to leave China severely alone. The main points in new regulations which are objectionable are, firstly, the regulation which states that all mines have to be under Chinese management. This rule is, on the face of it, an absurdity, for no sane foreigner is ever likely to invest a cent in any mining proposition controlled by Chinese. Another absurd rule is that the Chinese should control half the shares, in place of three-tenths as provided for under the old regime, and equally objectionable is a regulation which provides that work shall be commenced within six months. When framing the regulations the authorities at Peking very probably had in view a scheme for stopping the mineral development of China altogether, and in surrounding mining with such absurd conditions they certainly have achieved their end. Individually ministers have protested to the Tsungli-Yamen against the obnoxious amendments, but until bold and united action is taken the Chinese will simply laugh in their capacious sleeves and insist upon the carrying out of the regulations. Some of the would be concessionaires, and not a few old residents of China, hold that the regulations are, from start to finish, nothing but a huge piece of bluff, which were never intended and never will be treated as binding on either party. This argument is all very well in its way, and it would be interesting to see what sort of a reception a concessionaire would get if he attempted to place on the London market a Chinese mineral grant and hoodwink the public by saying that the conditions under which his concessions were granted were nothing but moonshine.—*Shanghai Daily Press.*

## AFFAIRS IN PEKING.

We translate the following notes published in the *Universal Gazette* and other vernacular papers regarding affairs in Peking, confirming the news sent us by our native correspondent in the capital:—

The rivalry of Jung Lu and Prince Ching has become so bitter that all disguise is now thrown away and whenever the two meet they never fail to abuse each other, charging one another with disloyalty and treachery. So great is the rivalry and so anxious are the rivals to gain friends to their side that when officials from the provinces go to Peking for audience and, as in duty bound, call upon the two most powerful Ministers of the Imperial Court, they are confidentially advised not to call upon the chief of the other party. It seems that Jung Lu has been particularly energetic in this way. The head Censor of Prince Ching's party is Yang Chung-yi and that of Jung Lu's, Yu Cheng-kó. Since July last these Censors have been constant denouncing the opposition chiefs. So frequent have their memorials been that they have actually bored the Empress Dowager, who recently showed her displeasure by commanding the Ministers of the Grand Council to publicly reprimand Yang Chung-yi, Prince Ching's head Censor. Little time, however, was given to the friends of Jung Lu to rejoice at this proof of the Empress Dowager's leaning to-

wards her nephew's party, for, not long after, at an audience of Jung Lu before the Empress Dowager in the Grand Council Chamber, she pointedly asked him who Yu Cheng-kó was. Knowing that his aunt knew the antecedents of this Censor Jung Lu boldly confessed that, two years ago when the Reformer Kang Yu-wei went up to Peking from Canton, for his Doctor's degree at the Triennial Examinations, Yu Cheng-kó had charge of the ward in which Kang Yu-wei was writing his essays, and that he it was who passed the Reformer's papers and strongly recommended the bestowing of the Doctor's or *chinshih* degree upon the candidate. When Jung Lu had explained this the Empress Dowager simply smiled at her nephew, and although she said nothing every one in the Chamber knew perfectly well that she meant Jung Lu to feel that since he was the chief instrument in destroying Kang Yu-wei's party, there was no love lost between them and their destroyer, and that it struck her as odd that her nephew should keep at his side one of Kang Yu-wei's friends—the very man who had brought Kang into prominence by being the primary cause of his getting his high degree and so giving him (Kang) the opportunity of introducing his reform ideas to the Emperor. Although both parties have received a rebuff from the Empress Dowager people seem to think that Jung Lu is really more in favour than his rival.

A new arrival from Peking who had been received in audience in the Grand Council Chamber lately, reports that he found his Majesty Kuang Hsu looking very well, and that the Emperor asked him several questions about the province from whence he had come. The Empress Dowager, however, looked worn and thin. This is explained by the fact that, ever since the *coup d'état* last year, she has been in constant fear of assassination, confining herself constantly within her Palace and never leaving it until a few days ago to pray for rain at the Temple of the Most High. Close confinement inside the Palace and hard work day and night in reading memorials and writing out Rescripts in the Emperor's name, with the feeling that she is standing on a volcano, have had their effect.

A correspondent writing from Peking states, in connection with the various rumours of unrest in the capital, that all Manchu officials he has met and questioned on the subject are unanimous in predicting some great upheaval in the government in the near future, whereas amongst officials of pure Chinese descent this is not generally believed. The surface seems calm enough; bribes are still being given and received for help in procuring posts in the government; Metropolitan officials wear no anxiety in their countenances, while others are buying peacock feather decorations, etc., as if they expected perfect peace to reign in the Empire for the next two decades.

Chang Yen-mao, Director-General of mines in Chihli and Jeho, who is a *protege* of Jung Lu, has been denounced by Prince Ching's Censor, Yang Chung-yi, on eight counts, as regards the mines under him. It is feared that mining-work in those regions will be set back in consequence, although it is not known as yet who is to be appointed to investigate the charges.—*N. C. Daily News.*

## THE RECENT RUMOUR OF A RUSSO-JAPANESE WAR.

It will be remembered that a short time ago Chinese in the North were excited by rumours of an impending war between Russia and Japan, and to such an extent were these believed that many southerners doing business in Newchwang, Port Arthur, and Chefoo sent their families to Shanghai and elsewhere for safety. A Tientsin mandarin now in Shanghai gives the following explanation of the origin of the rumours, which must be taken for what it is worth. Two Japanese cruisers were about six weeks ago in the Gulf of Pechili and at one time appeared before Port Arthur. As the cruisers had the appearance of intending to steam inside the port, the Russian officer at the outer signal station hoisted a signal implying that the port was closed to foreign ships of war. The Japanese senior officer in command of the two cruisers, however, pretended not to understand the Russian signal and steamed straight for the harbour. At a

point nearly half-way inside and surrounded on all sides by forts, the Japanese leading cruiser was met by a steam-launch with a Russian official who boarded the vessel and verbally communicated the intelligence which had been indicated by the signal outside the harbour, and at the same time warned the Japanese captain that further penetration into the harbour would be resisted. To emphasise the declaration a commotion was observed by those board in the land forts and soon it was seen that menacing preparation were being made. Russian warships inside the basin were also observed to be hastily getting up steam and altogether matters looked decidedly unpleasant. The Japanese captain then simply bowed out his Russian visitor and the cruisers retired.—*N. C. Daily News.*

## THE CHINESE CALENDAR.

## AN UNLUCKY MONTH.

According to the historical records of the present Manchu dynasty the year on which the *Keng-tse* cycle with the 8th intercalary month falls has always brought disaster to the country in some shape, either through extreme drought, wide-spread inundations or rebellions, or the death of an important member of the Imperial House. This cycle spelt disaster centuries before the Manchu entered China, but when it fell in the second Manchu Emperor, Kang Hsi's reign (1660), thinking that under the changed condition of the House the fatal 8th intercalary month could be ignored, his Majesty made no change in the usual sequence of the months. The result was disastrous and myriads of the people of China suffered. The lesson was taken to heart by subsequent Emperors and when the *Keng-tse* cycle fell during the reigns of Yung Cheng (1720) Chien Lung (1780) and Tao Kuang (1840) the 8th intercalary month was eliminated and some other month intercalated instead. The usually fatal cycle passed off in peace with the arbitrary changes made and the Imperial Astronomers who warned these Emperors of the impending disasters threatened by the cycle, were satisfied. The *Keng-tse* cycle, is now again at hand and falls in 1900. Had the liberal-minded Kuang Hsu still been in power he would doubtless have laughed at the ill-omened prophecies of the grave and superstitious Imperial Astronomers who begged to be allowed, a few days ago, to recommend a change in the intercalary month of next year, and would probably have replied by ordering an entire change from the lunar to the solar year, in order to be in keeping with the months and dates of Western countries. Unfortunately the Conservatives are in power and Kuang Hsu is powerless. The consequence is that the 8th intercalary month of next year will probably be changed to the 4th or 5th intercalary month.—*N. C. Daily News.*

## MARSHAL SU'S MOVEMENTS.

Shanghai, 3rd October.

As anticipated, Marshal Su started for Nan-king yesterday morning in the Chinese cruiser *Tengyingchow* for an interview with Viceroy Liu. It is reported in mandarin circles that H.E. goes to arrange concerning the funds for the payment of the new Army Corps he is to raise and command in this province upon his return from marking out the French boundaries at Kuangchowwan. This work has been in abeyance since the lease was made last winter, owing to the extra demands of the French territory which the high provincial authorities of Kwangtung refused to grant.—*N. C. Daily News.*

## A BIG SQUEEZE.

Foreign owners of foreshore land, etc., in Shanghai will remember the difficulties they had not long ago with the importunity and aggressiveness of the newly-established *Shengko* Bureau under the prefect Hsu. It has now transpired that this official managed to make a considerable haul out of his dealings in this foreshore question, especially as regarded land belonging to native owners on this side of the Huangpu, and in Pootung and Wooosung (Pao-shan district). Hsu, who is now prefect of Huiianfu (Kiangpah), it appears, has been denounced to the Throne on the charge of pocket-



ing over the 200,000 squeezed from Shanghai and Panshan landowners, and a decree has been received ordering Viceroy Liu to make Hsu disgorge what he took and pay a heavy fine as a punishment.—N. C. Daily News.

### FIRE ON BOARD A RIVER STEAMER.

Shanghai, 7th October, A fire broke out on Tuesday morning on board of the Chinese-owned steamer *Wila*, sailing under the British flag, whilst off Otter Point, below Kiukiang, en route from Hankow. It appears that one of the native firemen was searching for something in the engine room bilges with a naked light when a quantity of oil that was stowed there ignited, and the outbreak was such as to drive those in the engine room on deck. The engines could not be handled and not knowing to what extent the conflagration would reach, the vessel was beached about four miles below the Point. The flames prevented the use of the fire pumps below and as there was, strange to say, no portable force pump in the ship, water could only be thrown in an inefficient manner by the deck buckets. A panic naturally ensued amongst the Chinese passengers and many sought *terra firma* immediately the vessel was beached, which took place about half-past ten. Fortunately the bulkheads were iron or the vessel would have been added to the list of those burnt on the Yangtze. The oil quickly burnt itself out and, apart from the destruction of the wood-work below, little damage was done. At 1 p.m. the China Navigation Co.'s steamer *Poyang* appeared on the scene and by request towed the vessel off, the Chinese passengers, realising the danger was past, quickly boarding, and the vessel arrived here on Thursday apparently none the worse for the mishap.—N. C. Daily News.

### SANDAKAN NOTES.

[FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT].

Sandakan, 6th October. Commissioner E. P. Gueritz having gone home on special leave, Mr. Henry Walker, Commissioner of Lands, has been appointed Government Commissioner, pending the arrival of a new Governor in the Colony.

The *Mausang* reported exceedingly heavy weather on her arrival here from Hongkong. She was over 8 days on the way, having sheltered in Manila Bay for two days.

Mr. and Mrs. Berkhuijsen have left Sandakan for the Straits Settlements. This is the last act in the Blue Funnel's connection with British North Borneo, Mr. Berkhuijsen having been the partner of Messrs. Mansfield & Co. having charge here for some years past.

### CANION NOTES.

[FROM THE "CHUNG NGOI SAN PO."]

Robberies committed on junks and steam-launches are reported daily and the pirates are always successful in carrying out their designs. On the 1st instant a junk towed by a steam-launch was robbed midway on her voyage from Canton to Fa-un, and on the same day a steam-launch running between Canton and Shuihing also fell into the hands of the pirates.

It is said that some gentry and merchants have proposed to establish a company for the purpose of farming out the shop tax as a substitute for the lekin tax as proposed by the High Commissioner Kang Yi, and the merchants of the seventy-two guilds are to be invited to become shareholders.

It is said that Kang Yi, the Grand Commissioner, has received Imperial instructions lately to recommend some clever gentry to the throne to fill important posts, and to inspect carefully all the ports in the province of Kwangtung.

One person was killed and another severely injured, by the fall of an electric light wire in a shop named Kwang Chang in Canton some days ago.

On the morning of the 3rd instant a big fire broke out in Kiuking, a market town in Nam-hoi district. Over one hundred and forty houses were burnt to the ground and some loss of life is reported. The cause of the fire is unknown.

### HONGKONG.

At the Magistracy on Thursday a Chinese contractor's coolie was fined \$5, at the instance of Mr. J. Bryan, for throwing night soil down the drains at Belilios Terrace that morning. Mr. Bryan caught him in the act.

There were 1,754 visitors to the City Hall Museum last week, of whom 199 were Europeans. Mr. Hallifax, the Police Magistrate of the New Territory, has had to come in from Tai-pohn with an attack of fever.

The cases of communicable disease reported last week were two of bubonic plague (on Sunday and Monday), both fatal, and one of enteric fever.

The flags of several of the German hongs were half-masted on Thursday in consequence of the death of Mr. F. Sander, late of the firm of Sander, Wieler & Co., which occurred at Hamburg on Wednesday.

The American ship *Emily Reed*, with a cargo of kerosine oil for Hongkong, which was reported by the German barque *Silo* making for Singapore in a leaky condition, arrived at Singapore on the 20th September.

The dates for the Victoria Regatta have been fixed for the 19th and 20th December. The Regatta will be held under the joint auspices of the Victoria Recreation Club and Hongkong Boat Club.

We are informed by the Superintendent of the P. & O. Company that a telegram has been received from the head office to the effect that in consequence of very heavy weather in the English Channel and delay to the Channel service the overland express with the London mail of 29th September arrived at Brindisi 15 hours late. The s.s. *Isis* therefore left that port correspondingly late. These mails were due in Hongkong per s.s. *Bengal* on 29th October.

In the Estimates for the present year a sum of \$8,888 was provided for the proposed Kowloon School. The money has not been expended, however, and in the Estimates for next year we observe that no provision at all is made under this heading. Yet, if we remember rightly, the Secretary of State sanctioned the school being proceeded with as soon as the Colonial revenue showed a surplus of \$100,000. That condition is now fulfilled.

The amount provided for the Police Department in the Estimates for next year is \$413,822, as compared with \$229,926, the approved estimate for the present year. It is stated in a footnote that in addition to the increased number of men for the New Territory, the pay of the whole of the European members is calculated at 20 per cent. increase to their present emoluments. Amongst the new appointments are two Assistant Superintendents at \$3,600, one being for Victoria and one for the New Territory.

At the Magistracy on Monday an American blue-jacket named Edward Howard was fined \$10 and ordered to pay compensation for damaging property at a jeweller's shop at 152, Queen's Road Central, on Sunday night. The defendant and two other men went into the shop and asked to see some watches. Three were handed to them and they asked for another. The complainant asked them to return the watches, and on their doing so he locked them up; and refused to show them any more watches, whereupon the defendant smashed two panes of glass. Mr. Melbourne appeared for the prosecution.

A ship coolie in the employ of the East Asiatic Trading Company was placed in the Dock at the Magistracy on Thursday on a charge of stealing bristles. He appears to have gone about it in a most systematic manner, substituting for the boxes containing the bristles other boxes of the same weight and size and similarly marked containing coal and stones. In this way bristles of the value of £500 and comprising about half-a-dozen shipments were stolen. In consequence of telegrams being received from home the police were communicated with. Mr. Bune, of the East Asiatic Trading Company, suspected a certain man, and informed the police of his suspicions, and in concert with him the thefts were fixed upon a ship's coolie, who was arrested by Chief Detective Inspector Hanson under a warrant on Wednesday. The case was adjourned for further enquiries.

The U. S. gunboat *Princeton* left on Thursday at noon for Manila.

A *Gazette* Extraordinary was issued Wednesday revoking the proclamation declaring Taiwanfoo and its port Anping infected ports or places.

It is notified that the postage on parcels to India and Ceylon is now 25 cents per pound. Parcels to China, Straits Settlements, and Burmah will in future be forwarded by private ships only.

The outbreak of rinderpest at Pokfulam Dairy Farm has not spread beyond the shed where it originally broke out, and there is reason to hope that the efforts to stamp out the disease will be successful before long, as at this time of the year the disease is of a much less virulent type than in spring. Two or three of the cattle have died.

Dr. Rieloff, the German Consul, who is now on a visit to Japan, has had an unpleasant experience. Whilst travelling by train from Kamakura to Tokyo, the *Japan Gazette* says, he was robbed of yen 240 in Japanese currency and yen 2,000 in Hongkong and Shanghai Bank notes. The matter was reported to the Kagacho Police, who at once instituted enquiries.

The Committee of the Hongkong Football Club, in accordance with a strongly-expressed opinion at the last annual meeting, have decided to erect a Grand Stand on their ground at Wongneicheong for the use of members and their lady friends. It will seat 200. The cost will be defrayed by private subscription from the members.

Messrs. W. Brewer & Co. have just published, under the title of "Picturesque Hongkong" a book of twenty-four views of Hongkong, Canton, and Macao. The views are coloured and the book is got up in a fancy Japanese binding. The production does credit to the publishers and the artists, and makes a pleasing and attractive souvenir of the colony. It will no doubt be appreciated both by visitors and residents.

The following appeared in the General Orders issued on Thursday in connection with the Hongkong Volunteer Corps:—"Services, Transvaal.—The following telegram from the Secretary of State for the Colonies is published for information:—To Governor, Hongkong. Referring to your telegram of September 21st, Her Majesty's Government desire to express high appreciation of loyal and spirited offer by Hongkong Volunteer Corps, but are not in position to accept. (Signed) Chamberlain."

The following returns of the average amount of Bank notes in circulation and of specie in reserve in Hongkong, during the month ended 30th September, as certified by the Managers of the respective Banks, are published:—

Banks.	Average amount.	Specie in reserve.
Chartered Bank of India, Australia and China, .....	\$2,832,696	\$1,800,000
Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation	6,307,833	5,000,000
National Bank of China, Limited,	447,072	150,000
Total ... ..	\$9,587,601	\$6,950,000

Deputy-Superintendent Baddley and the Fire Brigade were called to a couple of fires on the night of the 5th inst.—one at a godown belonging to Chak Yik at 256, Des Vaux Road, and the other at 235, Queen's Road Central. The former was discovered about six o'clock and the brigade played upon it for two hours, at the end of which time the roof and a considerable quantity of the contents of the building had been damaged by fire and water. The contents included some hemp and Chinese crackers, which had been insured up to Thursday but the insurance had not been renewed. Some tea stored in the building was insured in the Chun On Insurance Company. The ground floor of 235, Queen's Road Central was insured in the Atlas Insurance Company for \$2,200, and the first floor, which was stored with peppermint, etc., was insured for \$4,000 in the Atlas and \$1,000 in the Japanese Insurance Company; total insurance \$7,200. The first floor of 233 was also damaged somewhat.



## MISCELLANEOUS.

Captain Griek of the German steamer *Saxonia*, which arrived at Singapore on the 29th September, reported that on the voyage from Moji a crew of fifteen Japanese was picked up from a Japanese junk on the East coast of China in Lat. 27 deg. 2 m. North and Long. 121 deg. 29 m. East. They were landed in Singapore.

Fire broke out on board the China Mutual Steam Navigation Company's steamer *Pakling*, under repairs at the dock of Uraga, at about 4 a.m. on 27th September. Part of her cargo was burnt, while the hull received slight damage. The fire is said to have originated from tobacco ashes dropped from a pipe.—*Nagasaki Press*.

The action brought by the China Merchants, S.N. Co. in H.B.M.'s Consular Court, Tientsin against the Taku Tug & Lighter Co., Limited to recover Tls. 9,334 for damage to tribute rice by the sinking of lighters, resulted in favour of the plaintiffs. Mr. J. B. Eames was for the plaintiff, and Mr. Francis Ellis defended.—*China Gazette*.

*Sport and Gossip* (Shanghai) says:—The S.S.P.C.A. at once took up the matter mentioned in *The China Gazette* a week ago of frogs being exposed for sale, skinned yet alive, in the market here. On the Hongkew side some were found to be dead, but some alive, and they had doubtless all undergone the torture as described. This has been a practice with the market men for years and such being the case the culprits were informed that severe punishment awaited them if any frogs were brought into the market in that condition in the future.

A Tacoma press despatch of the 6th September says:—The Oriental liner *Glenogle* arrived to-day from Hongkong and Yokohama. She brings 104 Japanese and twenty-one Chinese in the steerage and a valuable cargo of tea and silks, and the work of unloading her was begun to-night. The work will be rushed, as it is the intention to get the cargo out, coal the ship, and start her for San Francisco by Saturday night or Sunday morning. She will there be fitted out as a transport and carry 800 troops to the Philippines.

## COMMERCIAL.

## TEA.

SHANGHAI, 7th October.—(From Messrs. Welch Lewis & Co.'s Circular.)—London telegrams indicate a strong market for Teas "for price," and we hear of a Shuntam costing Tls. 11½ in Hankow having been sold at 5½d. a lb. Low Shuntams in this market command Tls. 16½ a picul, though the desire to buy them at this price is limited to a few firms. Some recent settlements at Tls. 15½ to Tls. 16½ were bought by native speculators in Hankow at Tls. 9½ to 9½ and leave them handsome profits. There has also been a demand for better qualities up to Tls. 21 a picul, but better Teas in London do not seem to have advanced at all in price.

Settlements during the fortnight are:—

Ningchow..... 3,458 ½-chest, at Tls. 18½/20.90  
Hohow..... 432 " " 17½  
Wenchow..... 88 " " 15½  
Oonan..... 5,576 " " 15/20½  
Oopack..... 209 " " 16½

9,763

Stock, 4,316 half-chests, against 5,909 half-chests at same time last year.

Green Tea.—New York advices are not encouraging either for Pingsueys or for Country Teas. London prices for the few Country Teas which had arrived appears to be somewhat better than those ruling in New York, but prices for old Teas there are very low. Pingsueys.—Supplies seem to expand proportionately with the power to sell, and it is now rumoured that there is sufficient leaf in the districts to make 150,000 half-chests if they can be sold. We think, however, that 130,000 half-chests will probably be the outside figures reached this season, of which probably some 10,000 half-chests will be taken by Batoum and Bombay buyers. Prices are easier, and the laying down cost is further aided by the drop in exchange. Country Teas.—Our market has been quiet, and finest Teas have been weaker with occasional sales at about half a tael under prices

once refused. Teas up to Tls. 22 a picul are still in strong request and Fychows bring very full rates. On further acquaintance with the crop we think we were rather inclined to consider the quality to be better than it proves to be. Many of the early Moyunes are nice bright Teas, and stand out in a marked manner from the rest of the crop, but second and third packs are ordinary, and the better chops of Tienkai generally speaking are below an average in quality. There has been an idea about that the opposition of Duty would tend to concentrate business towards New York, but so far figures of Green Tea do not bear out that idea. The export figures to the United States and Canada to date show a large increase compared with those of last season to date, being 8,532,666 lbs., against 4,285,416 lbs., distributed as follows:—

To New York..... 5,581,676 lbs., against 2,323,553 lbs. in 1898  
" Chicago..... 966,607 lbs., against 479,666 lbs. in 1898  
" Other Ports..... 1,984,283 lbs., against 1,482,197 lbs. in 1898.

Hysons.—The demand for shipment to Bombay has raised the quotation for common quality about a tael a picul and nothing is now obtainable under Tls. 21 @ 21½ picul. Tienkai sorts are in large supply, but meet with no attention, except a few of the best up to Tls. 39 a picul. Finest Moyunes are selling slowly at Tls. 26 @ 28, and some settlements at these prices are equal in quality to early purchases at about Tls. 40.

Settlements during the fortnight:—

	4-chests.	at Tls.
Pingsuey.....	8,736	21.00 a 27.50
Moyune.....	7,985	21.50 a 28.50
Tienkai.....	5,668	21.50 a 30.00
Fychow.....	2,573	19.50 a 22.00
Local packed.....	1,043	18.00 a 19.25

26,005 ½-chests  
Total Settlements since the opening of the season:—

1899 x 1900.	
Settlements.	Stock.
4-chests.	4-chests.
Pingsuey..... 91,727	14,741
Moyune..... 43,194	
Tienkai..... 35,650	12,112
Fychow..... 13,435	
Local packed..... 17,711	1,324
Total..... 201,217	28,177

1898 x 1899.	
Settlements.	Stock.
4-chests.	4-chests.
Pingsuey..... 28,733	15,465
Moyune..... 41,725	
Tienkai..... 34,066	34,051
Fychow..... 11,417	
Local packed..... 13,145	3,247
Total..... 129,036	5,763

## EXPORT OF TEA FROM CHINA TO UNITED KINGDOM AND CONTINENT.

	1899-1900	1898-99
	lbs.	lbs.
Hankow and Shanghai...	9,514,030	10,608,322
Amoy.....	221,484	390,250
Foochow.....	11,193,226	10,577,774
Canton.....	3,354,451	2,727,279
Total.....	24,313,161	24,290,525

## EXPORT OF TEA FROM CHINA TO UNITED STATES AND CANADA.

	1899-1900	1898-99
	lbs.	lbs.
Shanghai.....	1,222,849	1,132,577
Amoy.....	6,679,676	5,410,936
Foochow.....	4,414,770	4,909,051
Total.....	12,317,295	11,512,564

## EXPORT OF TEA FROM CHINA TO ODESSA

	1899-1900	1898-99
	lbs.	lbs.
Shanghai and Hankow...	25,363,948	22,676,902

## EXPORT OF TEA FROM JAPAN TO UNITED STATES AND CANADA.

	1899-1900	1898-99
	lbs.	lbs.
Yokohama.....	19,569,578	18,221,575
Kobe.....	11,782,517	11,235,261
Total.....	31,351,095	29,456,836

## SILK.

CANTON, 13th October.—Silk.—Tsatlees.—No settlements are reported. Re-reels.—As the supply of Tsatlees is expected to be very small, dealers refuse to make further contracts, and the prices given below are purely nominal. Filatures.—On the 20th instant, a sudden demand sprang up for Lyons, buying became general and prices advanced rapidly. From prices paid we quote: \$1,050 for Po King Cheong 9/11, \$1,040 for Kwong Lun Fung 10/12, \$1,020/1,010 for Kum King Cheong and Kai Cheong Lcong 11/12, \$990 for Kwong Shun Cheong 13/15, \$980/980 for Kwong Lun High 11/13 and 15/15, \$985/975 for Kwong Wo Tai 11/13 and 13/15, \$980 for Miu King Lun 16/18, \$970 for Yu Wo Cheong 13/15, \$900 for Shing King Lun 13/15, \$900 to Hing Lun 11/13 \$850 for Hing Lun and Quan Hing 13/15. Short-reels.—Best kinds have been in little demand, No. 2 and good No. 3 have been in fairly good demand but the advance asked by the natives reduced business considerably. Waste.—Prices advanced steadily, small purchases having been made at \$94/95 and \$97; dealers are asking now \$100/102 per picul for Extra Extra Waste.

SHANGHAI, 7th October.—(From Messrs. A. R. Rurkill & Sons' Circular).—The Home markets are quiet and Blue Elephants are quoted at 12/10½ in London, whilst Gold Killings are at Fcs. 31. 50 in Lyons. Raw Silk.—Market quiet, the low rate of Exchange ruling the past week reduced laying down costs considerably, but buying has not been general, total settlements amount to 500 bales. Yellow Silk.—A good business has been done again this week and prices are strong, about 400 bales have changed hands. Total Arrivals, as per Customs Returns, September 30th to October 6th, are: 1,136 bales White, 479 bales Yellow and 125 bales Wild Silks. Hand Filatures And Re-reels.—Market strong, about 150 bales have been settled. Steam Filatures.—A strong demand has been in evidence all week, and prices show a rise of Tls. 10/15, and are very firm at the advance. Settlements, some 400/500 bales, are nearly all for the Continent. The total Export of Steam Filatures to date is: 2,393 bales to America, 1,730 bales to the Continent, 36 bales to London, and 6 bales to Japan. Wild Silk.—The stock here of old Silk is exhausted, contracts have been made for new season cargo. Waste Silk.—A transaction in Long Shantung B (whole bales) at Tls. 33½ per picul is reported.

Quotations in Taels per picul—Average Exchange for the week 4 m./s. 2/8½ and Fcs. 3.36½. Freight Tls. 7.25 per cwt:—

	Tls. per picul.
Tsatlees.—	
Mountain 3.....	577½
" 4.....	570
Almond Flower Butmay.....	530
Gold Killing.....	525
Blue Double Elephant.....	517½
Yaconlay Seeling.....	497½
Kinfong.....	475
Taysam.—	
9 by 12 Moss, Green Stork 3.....	4134
" Double Butterfly 2.....	4134
Skains.—	
Lie Skains Extra.....	371½
" No. 1.....	348½
" No. 2.....	328½
Yellow Silk.—	
Gold Almond Flower 1.....	440
" 2.....	420
Mienchew 1 and 2.....	387½/365
Meeyang 1 and 2.....	352½/322½
White Meeyang.....	347½
Yellow Silk.—	
Fooyung 1 and 2.....	330/287½
Kopan 1 and 2.....	350/335
Wongchow Extra and 2.....	290/250
Szechong Market 1.....	233
Steam Filatures.—	
Gold Anchor, 9/11, Den.....	925
Silver.....	910
Gold Globe, 9/11 Den, 1.....	990
Hungkee, 10/12 " 1 and 2.....	900/890
" 13/15 " 2 and 3.....	855/835
Woman and Loom, 9/11 Den, 1.....	90½
" 11/13 Den, 1, 2 and 3, aver.....	875
Dah Lun Stork Chop, 11/13 Den, 3.....	830
Hand Filature.—	
Worm and Leaf, 1, 2 and 3.....	aver. 605
Black Tiger, 2 and 3.....	670/680
Gold Sheep, No. 3 and 4.....	635/655
Green Horse, 3.....	600
Wild Silk.—	
Tussah Filature, Spinning Girl Chop, 8 Cons.....	275
Tussah Raw.....	125/165

## EXPORT OF SILK FROM CHINA AND JAPAN TO EUROPE.

	1899-1900	1898-99
	bales.	bales.
Shanghai.....	45,176	25,767
Canton.....	10,838	10,317
Yokohama.....	8,240	4,955
Total.....	64,254	41,039



## EXPORT OF SILK FROM CHINA AND JAPAN TO AMERICA.

	1898-1900 bales.	1898-9 bales.
Shanghai .....	5,519	2,478
Canton .....	3,299	4,083
Yokohama.....	8,471	4,560
	17,289	11,141

## CAMPBOR.

HONGKONG, 13th October.—The improvement last noted has not been maintained and the market is now weaker. Quotation for Formosa are \$68.50 to \$69.50 sales 370 piculs.

## SUGAR.

HONGKONG, 13th October.—Great activity prevails in the market and prices are still rising. Quotations are:

Shekloong, No. 1, White...	\$8.85 to \$8.90	cl.
do. " 2, White...	8.10 to 8.15	"
Shekloong, No. 1, Brown...	5.90 to 5.95	pcl.
do. " 2, Brown...	5.80 to 5.85	"
Swatow, No. 1, White...	8.75 to 8.80	"
do. " 1, White...	7.95 to 8.00	"
Swatow, No. 1, Brown...	5.85 to 5.90	"
do. " 2, Brown...	5.80 to 5.85	"
Foochow Sugar Candy.....	12.70 to 12.75	"
Shekloong .....	11.90 to 11.95	"

## MISCELLANEOUS EXPORTS.

Per steamer *Pisa*, sailed on the 26th September. For New York:—4 cases tea, 6 cases grass cloth, 7 cases curios, 8 cases canes, 22 cases human hair, 45 cases preserves, 63 cases bristles, 103 cases Chinaware, 109 cases essential oil, 162 packages rattanware, 164 cases blackwoodware, 130 packages split bamboo, 150 casks nut oil, 325 cases Saigon cassia, 1,000 cases cassia lignea, 3,800 bales hemp, and 5,615 packages sundries.

Per steamer *Nurnberg*, sailed on the 27th September. For Havre:—1 case bird feathers, 1 case human hair, 5 cases feathers, 43 cases cantharides, 316 packages canes, and 498 cases tea. For Havre and/or Hamburg:—2 cases silks, 4 cases human hair, 8 bales rugs, 20 cases bristles, 25 cases Chinaware, 200 cases palm leaf fans, and 200 cases cassia lignea. For Havre and/or London:—417 bales canes. For Havre and/or Hamburg and/or London:—20 boxes essential oil and 110 boxes bristles. For Hamburg:—1 case bronzeware, 3 cases Chinaware, 4 cases sundries, 5 cases curios, 6 cases private effects, 8 cases blackwoodware, 9 cases human hair, 10 cases teasticks, 15 cases cigars, 22 cases palm leaf fans, 30 cases bristles, 50 cases star-aniseed, 90 bales canes, 70 rolls matting, 94 casks wood oil, 100 cases nut falls, 127 bales feathers, 129 casks preserves, 250 packages crackers, and 500 bales broken cassia. For Hamburg and/or Antwerp and/or London:—110 cases bristles. For Amsterdam:—275 casks preserves. For Rotterdam:—100 casks preserves. For London:—100 casks soy. For Liverpool:—60 casks soy. For Lisbon:—30 boxes tea. For Fiume:—10 packages tea.

Per steamer *Saint David* sailed on the 7th October. From Hongkong for New York:—22,016 rolls matting, 1,000 boxes cassia, 913 bales rattanware, 378 packages crackers, and 38 cases Chinaware.

Per steamer *Salazie*, sailed on the 7th October. For Marseilles:—302 bales raw silk, 4 cases silks, 10 cases essential oil, 450 cases cassia, 31 cases curios, 84 packages tea, 369 bales pierced cocoons. For Milan:—30 bales raw silk. For Lyons:—600 bales raw silk. For London:—10 bales raw silk and 2 cases silks.

## OPIUM.

HONGKONG, 13th October.—Bengal.—A very extensive business has passed in this drug during the week. There has been a still further rise in prices, the market closing at New Patna \$920, New Benares \$895.

Malwa.—Same as Bengal, latest figures being as under:—

New	\$860 with alics from 1/4 to 1 catty.
Old (2/3 yrs.)	\$880 " " 1/4 to 1 1/4 "
" (4/6 " )	\$900 " " " to " "
Persian.	The market has ruled very steady without any alteration in rates. Current quot-

ations are \$650 for Oily and \$650 to \$775 for Paper-wrapped according to quality.

Today's stocks are estimated as follows:—	
New Patna .....	360 chests.
Old Patna .....	39 "
New Benares.....	197 "
Malwa.....	898 "
Persian .....	917 "

## COURSE OF THE HONGKONG OPIUM MARKET.

DATE.	PATNA.		BENARES.		MALWA.	
	New.	Old.	New.	Old.	New.	Old.
1899.	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$
Oct. 7	876	—	835	—	860	—
Oct. 8	880	—	840	—	860	—
Oct. 9	885	—	845	—	860	—
Oct. 10	895	—	852 1/2	—	860	—
Oct. 11	905	—	870	—	860	—
Oct. 12	912 1/2	—	880	—	860	—
Oct. 13	920	—	895	—	860	—

## COTTON.

HONGKONG, 13th October.—An advance of \$1 has been established. Market closing very firm. Stocks, about 3,500 bales.

Bombay.....	18.00 to 19.00 picul.
Kurrachee .....	— to — "
Bengal (New), Rangoon, } and Dacca .....	19.00 to 21.00 picul.
Shanghai and Japanese, ...	24.00 to 25.00 "
Tungchow and Ningpo.....	24.00 to 25.00 "
Maras (Best) .....	— to — "
Sales: 450 bales Bengal (Rangoon, new), and Dacca.	

## RICE.

HONGKONG, 13th October.—The continued dry weather, which threatens the crop prospects, has occasioned a considerable further rise in prices. Quotations are:—

Saigon, Ordinary.....	\$2.60 to 2.65
Round, Good quality .....	2.95 to 3.00
Long .....	3.35 to 3.40
Siam, Field, mill cleaned, No. 2 ...	2.95 to 3.00
Garden, " No. 1 ...	3.45 to 3.50
White .....	3.85 to 3.90
Fine Cargo.....	4.00 to 4.35

## MISCELLANEOUS IMPORTS.

HONGKONG, 13th October.—Among the sales reported during the week are the following:—

YARN AND PIECE GOODS:—Bombay Yarn:—	
1,100 bales No. 10 at \$79 to \$90, 300 bales No. 12 at \$80 to \$82, 150 bales No. 16 at \$91 to \$95, 1,250 bales No. 20 at \$91 to \$100. Grey Shirtings:—	
50 pieces 8 1/2 lbs. Blue Joss at \$3.25, 1,500 pieces 8 1/2 lbs. Blue Joss at \$3.25. White Shirtings:—250 piculs S. O. at \$4.45, 250 piculs S. M. at \$4.45. Bengal Cotton.—100 bales at \$20, 50 bales at \$19. Long Ells:—250 pieces 8 lbs. Scarlet Stag Chop at \$7, 250 pieces 9 lbs. Scarlet Stag Chop at \$7.5.	
COTTON YARN—	per bale
Bombay—Nos. 10 to 20s. ...	68.00 to 102.00
English—Nos. 16 to 24.....	105.00 to 111.00
" 22 to 24.....	109.00 to 115.00
" 28 to 32.....	120.00 to 126.00
" 38 to 42.....	132.00 to 140.00

COTTON PIECE GOODS—	per price
Grey Shirtings—61bs. ....	1.80 to 1.90
7 lbs. ....	2.05 to 2.15
8 1/2 lbs. ....	2.55 to 2.35
9 to 10 lbs. ....	3.55 to 4.30
White Shirtings—51 to 56 rd. ....	2.40 to 2.60
58 to 60 " ....	2.80 to 3.50
61 to 66 " ....	3.75 to 4.60
Fine .....	4.60 to 7.50
Book-folds. ....	4.00 to 5.90
Victoria Lawns—12 yards ...	0.66 to 1.35
T-Cloths—61bs. (32 in.), Ord'y. ....	1.60 to 1.85
71bs. (32 " ), " ....	1.99 1/2 to 2.20
61bs. (32 " ), Mexs. ....	1.70 to 1.90
71bs. (32 " ), " ....	2.25 to 2.85
8 to 8 1/2 oz., (36 in.) ....	2.55 to 3.30
Drills, English—40 yds., 14 to 16 lbs. ....	3.80 to 6.60

## FANCY COTTONS—

Turkey Red Shirtings—1 1/4 to 8 lbs. }	1.65 to 5.00
Brocades—Dyed .....	4.00 — 5.00
Damnaks .....	— to —
Chintzes—Assorted .....	0.07 1/2 to 0.16
Velvet—Black, 22 in. ....	0.22 1/2 to 0.45
Velvet—Black, 18 in. ....	0.20 1/2 to 0.21 1/2

Handkerchiefs—Imitation Silk	0.80 to 2.00
WOOLLENS—	per yard
Spanish Stripes—Sundry chops. ....	0.70 to 1.75
German .....	— to —
Habit, Med., and Broad Cloths.	1.25 to 5.50

Long Ells—Scarlet .....	6.25 to 10.00
Assorted .....	6.35 to 10.00
Camlets—Assorted .....	12.00 to 32.00
Lastings—30 yds., 31 inches, } Assorted	9.50 to 18.00
Orleans—Plain .....	7.50 to 8.50
Blankets—8 to 12 lbs. (pair) ...	4.50 to 12.00

## METALS—

Iron—Nail Rod .....	5.25 to —
Square, Flat Round Bar ...	5.80 to —
Swedish Bar .....	7.00 to —
Small Round Rod .....	6.25 to —
Hoop 1/2 to 1 1/2 in., ....	6.75 to —
Wire 15/25 .....	11.00 to —
Old Wire Rope.....	2.50 to —
Lead, L. B. & Co. and Hole Chop	9.50 to —
Australian .....	9.50 to —
Yellow M'tal—Muntz, 14/20 oz. ....	41.00 to —
Vivian's, 14/20 oz. ....	41.00 to —
Elliot's, 14/20 oz. ....	41.00 to —
Composition Nails .....	68.00 to —
Japan Copper, Slabs .....	32.00 to —
Tin .....	92.00 to —
Tin-Plates .....	8.10 to —
Steel 1/2 to 1/4 .....	6.75 to —
SUNDRIES—	per picul
Quicksilver .....	158.00 to —
Window Glass .....	5.70 to —
Kerosene Oil ...	2.75 to —

SHANGHAI 7th October.—(From Messrs. No. 1 Murray & Co.'s Piece Goods Trade Report.) Piece Goods.—Our market is undoubtedly much stronger, which is shown more perhaps by the jump in prices at Auction than the small amount of private business transacted. As an example of the advance that has taken place at the public sales we may mention that prices paid on 5th inst. for the nine chops of Gray and White Shirtings were a little more than 3 1/2 per cent. over those quoted in our report of 23rd ult., but as exchange is quite 2 per cent. lower, the rise is absurdly inadequate, and still there is no diminution in quantities sacrificed weakly. Private sellers are scarce, the majority having but little to offer, while the large holders are very firm and asking much higher price than those now current. The Native holders appear to be on that lay now, as there have been but few resales this week, although the Tientsin, Newchwang and Hankow merchants are all showing a disposition to buy. There has not been any further news concerning the drought in the North, and the plague at Newchwang appears to be pursuing its way without much interference to the Piece Goods trade. A revival in the trade with Korea has taken place this week and prices have advanced a mace and half during the interval. The high prices asked in the home markets, coupled with the drop in Exchange and the heavy rise in the Discount rate in London all tends to put a stop to any indent business, which has been almost entirely absent in Cottons and Fancy goods this week, though something has been done in Woollens. The Yarn market is in an excited state, and prices are rapidly advancing, but not quite fast enough for the holders of Indian Spinnings who are now asking greatly enhanced rates. In Japanese only a small business is reported and the Local Mills are not credited with so much this week, but prices show a substantial advance. Cotton is very strong, sales having been made as high as Tls. 17.80 picul for best machine ginned. There has been a good demand for the Indian staple, and the market is now quite cleared.

METALS 9th October.—(From Messrs. Alex. Bielfeld & Co.'s Report)—In Metals a few orders, though only small ones, have been placed this week. Low exchange has undoubtedly had a great influence on these but the reports from the consuming districts have been brighter, and the firm condition of the Home markets give, no incentive to hold off longer before filling requirements. The following business has been reported:—200 tons Australian Lead Tls. 7.40, spot.; 250 cases Tin Plates Tls. 6.80, spot.; 350 tons Old Horse Shoes Tls. 2.41 to 2.47 1/2; 175 tons Old Cart Tyres 115s. to 117s. c.i.f.; 100 tons Old Wire Cobbles 117s. 6d. c.i.f.; 100 tons Stead Plate Cuttings, large Assortment 105s. c.i.f.; 50 tons Old Telegraph Wire 86s. c.i.f.; spot.; 50 tons Old Railway Spikes c.i.f. 107s. 6d.



## EXCHANGE.

FRIDAY, 13th October.

## ON LONDON.—

Telegraphic Transfer	1/10½
Bank Bills, on demand	1/10½
Bank Bills, at 30 days' sight	1/10½
Bank Bills, at 4 months' sight	1/11½
Credits, at 4 months' sight	1/11½
Documentary Bills, 4 months' sight	1/11½

## ON PARIS.—

Bank Bills, on demand	2.41½
Credits, at 4 months' sight	2.47

## ON GERMANY.—

On demand	1.95½
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## ON NEW YORK.—

Bank Bills, on demand	46½
Credits, 60 days' sight	47½

## ON BOMBAY.—

Telegraphic Transfer	141½
Bank, on demand	142½

## ON CALCUTTA.—

Telegraphic Transfer	141½
Bank, on demand	142½

## ON SHANGHAI.—

Bank, at sight	72½
Private, 30 days' sight	73½

## ON YOKOHAMA.—

On demand	6¼ % pm.
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## ON MANILA.—

On demand	2¼ % pm.
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## ON SINGAPORE.—

On demand	1 % pm.
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SOVEREIGNS. Bank's Buying Rate	10.43
GOLD LEAF, 100 fine, per tael	53.60

## JOINT STOCK SHARES.

HONGKONG, 14th October.—The market has remained dull and rates in most stocks show a further decline. Business has been restricted to a few stocks, chiefly Indo-Chinas and Lands.

BANKS.—Hongkong and Shanghai have ruled very quiet with sellers at 340 and later at 338; buyers hang back on account of the Transvaal crisis, although how that in itself can affect the Bank it is difficult to see. London rates are £59 per Reuter and £58 per private advices. Nationals remain steady at \$26½ to \$27 and could probably be placed at the latter rate.

MARINE INSURANCES.—China Traders have been on offer during the week at \$64½ cum dividend without sales and at time of closing are obtainable at \$60 ex dividend of \$4 paid on the 11th instant. Unions have ruled steady, but with small sellers at \$260 cum dividend payable to-day, and close at \$242 ex dividend. Cantons have changed hands in small lots at \$147½. Straits continue dull and neglected with small sales. The Northern Insurances, without local business, are quoted from last Shanghai circulars.

FIRE INSURANCES.—Hongkongs have been placed at \$330 and close with sellers at \$332½. China Fires continue on offer without inducing business.

SHIPPING.—Hongkong, Canton and Macao remain quiet with small sales at \$29½ and \$29¾. Indos have been dealt in to a fair extent at from \$73½ to \$77½ cash and at from \$80 to \$82 for February and \$81 to \$83 for March, market closing firm with cash buyers at \$78½ and forward at about equivalent rates. Douglasses continue neglected with sellers and small sales at \$48. China Mutuals and China Manilas unchanged and without business.

REFINERIES.—China Sugars and Luzons without business.

MINING.—Punjoms improved in the early part of the week to \$11, at which a few shares changed hands after sales at \$10 and \$10½. The market closes quieter with sellers at \$10½. Charbonnages and Queens remain unchanged and without business. Jebebus have declined to \$14½ after sales at \$15, \$14½, and \$14½. Olivers have also ruled easier with small sales at \$11 and \$6½ for A's and B's, closing with sellers at \$11 and \$6.25 respectively. Great Easterns after changing hands at \$1.70 have advanced to \$1.90.

DOCKS, WHARVES, AND GODOWNS.—Hongkong and Whampoa Docks continue dull and neglected at 515 with no sales to report. Kowloon Wharves have declined without sales to \$92 and close with sellers at that rate. Wanchais continue in demand at quotation without bringing shares on the market. Amoy Docks have found buyers at \$18.

LANDS, HOTELS, AND BUILDINGS.—Hongkong Lands show a further decline. Sales have been effected at \$110, \$109, \$108, \$107, and \$106, market closing steadier at \$107. Hotels have fallen to \$125 without sales. West Points continue on offer at \$30 after sales at \$29½. Humphreys have changed hands at \$10 and \$9.90.

MISCELLANEOUS.—Star Ferries have found further buyers at \$19½. Watsons have changed hands at \$16½, Hongkong Cottons at \$60, and Electrics at \$13.

Closing quotations are as follows:—

COMPANY.	PAID UP.	QUOTATIONS.
Banks—		[\$647½, sales & sles.
Hongkong & S'hai...	\$125	338 p. ct. prem.,=
China & Japan, ordy.	£4	£1.
Do. deferred	£1	£5 5s.
Natl. Bank of China		
B. Shares	£8	\$26½, sales & bys.
Foun. Shares	£8	\$26½, buyers
Bell's Asbestos E. A.	£1	nominal
Campbell, Moore & Co.	\$10	\$14, buyers
China Prov. L. & M.	\$10	\$9.50,
China Sugar	\$100	\$138, buyers
Cotton Mills—		
Ewo	Tls. 100	Tls. 66 sellers
International	Tls. 100	Tls. 75
Laou Kung Mow	Tls. 100	Tls. 77½, sellers
Soychee	Tls. 500	Tls. 350
Yahloong	Tls. 100	Tls. 57½
Hongkong	\$100	\$60, sales & buyers
Dairy Farm	\$6	\$5.25, buyers
Fenwick & Co., Geo.	\$25	\$42½, buyers
Green Island Cement	\$10	\$29, sellers
H. & C. Bakery	\$50	\$25.
Hongkong & C. Gas	£10	\$127.
Hongkong Electric	\$10	\$13, sale & sellers
H. H. L. Tramways	\$100	\$147½, buyers
Hongkong Hotel	\$50	\$125, sellers
Hongkong Ice	\$25	\$126, sellers
H. & K. Wharf & G.	\$50	\$92, sellers
Hongkong Rope	\$50	\$19.
H. & W. Dock	\$125	\$515 p. ct. prem.=
Insurance—		[\$768½
Canton	\$50	\$147½, buyers
China Fire	\$20	\$87, sellers
China Traders'	\$25	\$60, ex div. sellers
Hongkong Fire	\$50	\$330.
North-China	\$25	Tls. 200.
Straits	\$20	\$4, sellers
Union	\$50	\$242, ex div. buys
Yangtze	\$60	\$121.
Land and Building—		
Hongkong Land Inv.	\$50	\$107½, sellers
Humphreys Estate	\$10	\$10, sellers
Kowloon Land & B.	\$30	\$30
West Point Building	\$50	\$31, sellers
Luzon Sugar	\$100	\$52, sellers
Mining—		
Charbonnages	Fcs. 250	\$245, buyers
Gt. Estn. & O'donian	\$	\$2, buyers
Do. Preference	\$1	60 cts., buyers
Jebebu	\$3	\$14.25.
Queen's Mines Ltd.	25c.	45 cts., sellers
Oliver's Mines, A.	\$5	\$11.
Do. B.	\$4½	\$6.10, buyers
Punjom	\$6	\$10½, sellers
Do. Preference	\$1	\$1.60, sales
Raub	15s 10d.	\$64½, buyers
New Amoy Dock	\$6½	\$18, sales
Steamship Coys.—		
China and Manila	\$50	\$90, s-llers
China Mutual Pref.	£10	£9½, buyers
China Ordinary	£10	£7, buyers
Do.	£5	£3, 10s., buyers
Douglas Steamship	\$50	\$47½, sellers
H., Canton and M.	\$15	\$29½, sellers
Indo-China S. N.	£10	\$79, buyers
Star Ferry	\$7½	\$19½, sellers
Tebrau Planting Co.	\$5	\$5, sellers
Do.	\$3	\$3.
United Asbestos	\$2	\$2
Do.	\$10	\$10, nominal
Wanchai Warehouse	\$37½	\$45, buyers
Watson & Co., A. S.	\$10	\$16.50

J. Y. V. VERNON, Broker.

SHANGHAI, 9th October.—(From Messrs. J. P. Bisset & Co.'s Report).—A fair Business has been done, chiefly in Indo-China S. N. and Shanghai and Hongkew Wharf shares. Banks. Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation.—No local business has been reported. Marine Insurance.—Union Insurance shares were placed at \$260, and North-Chinas at Tls. 200. Fire Insurance.—No local business reported. Shipping.—Indo-China S. N. Co.—A large business was done in this stock, both for cash and on time. Cash sales were made at Tls. 64½ to Tls. 65, and from Hongkong to \$73½, and for December delivery at Tls. 56½ to Tls. 58, and for March at Tls. 60. Sugars.—Perak Sugar Cultivation shares were

placed at Tls. 62½ to Tls. 64 cash, and Tls. 66/87 for December delivery. Mining.—Nothing doing here. Docks, Wharves and Godowns.—Business has been done in:—Boyd & Co. shares at Tls. 195, S. C. Farnham & Co. shares at Tls. 212½, and Shanghai Engineering shares at Tls. 95. Shanghai and Hongkew Wharf shares have improved, with sales cash and for October at Tls. 242½ to Tls. 240, and later at Tls. 237½ cash, for November at Tls. 246, for December at Tls. 247½ and Tls. 250, and for March at Tls. 252½. Lands.—Shanghai Land Investment shares were placed at Tls. 83. Industrial.—Laou-Kung-Mow Cotton Mill shares were sold at Tls. 80, and China Flour Mill shares at Tls. 80. Other Cotton Mill shares are offering. Tugs & Cargo Bonts.—Taku Tug and Lighter shares changed hands at T. 11c. 80, Shanghai Cargo Boat shares at Tls. 180 cash and Tls. 182½ for December, and Co-operative Cargo Boat shares at Tls. 170. Miscellaneous.—Shanghai-Langkai Tobacco shares were sold at Tls. 170, Tls. 175 and Tls. 172½ cash, and Tls. 180 for November. The market closes weak with sellers. Hall and Holtz shares were placed at \$86.

## TONNAGE.

HONGKONG, 13th October.—A large number of charters has been effected during the past fortnight, and freights remain firm. From Saigon to Hongkong, there is no demand; to Java 35 cents per picul is offered for steamers of 30,000 pcls; to Singapore 21 cents per picul. From Bangkok to Hongkong, 24 and 29 cents per picul can be obtained for medium sized carriers. Hence to Kobe 24 cents per picul. Coal freights.—Moji to Hongkong, last fixture \$2.85, and more tonnage is wanted at this figure; to Singapore no enquiry. From Newchwang to Canton, 33 cents per picul is offered for loading end of this month.

The following are the settlements:—

Lothair—Italian bark, 794 tons, Hongkong to Callao, £1,500 lump sum.  
Valkyrien—British bark, 498 tons, Rajang to Hongkong, \$6.30 lump sum.  
Amigo—German steamer, 822 tons, Newchwang to Canton, 32 cents per picul.  
Nanchang—British steamer, 1,013 tons, Newchwang to Canton, 32 cents per picul.  
Pronto—German steamer, 719 tons, Newchwang to Canton, 28 cents per picul.  
Sueria—German steamer, 2,663 tons, Moji to Hongkong, \$2.4 per ton.  
Germania—German steamer, 1,775 tons, Moji to Hongkong, \$2.70 per ton.  
Tetartos—German steamer, 1,578 tons, Moji to Hongkong, \$2.85 per picul.  
Prosper—Norwegian steamer, 788 tons, 3 trips Hongay to Swatow, \$2 per ton.  
Equatoria—Belgian steamer, 1,087 tons, Hongay to Swatow, \$2.25 per ton.  
Taifu—German steamer, 1,065 tons, Hongay to Hongkong, \$ .80 per ton.  
Germania—German steamer, 1,775 tons, Hongkong to Kobe, \$7.50 lump sum.  
Tetartos—German steamer, 1,578 tons, hence to Kobe, \$9.00 lump sum.  
Quarta—German steamer, 1,145 tons, Amoy to Singapore, passenger, \$8 per head.  
Protonis—British steamer, 1,390 tons, Amoy to Singapore, passengers, \$7 per head.  
Holstein—German steamer, 1,103 tons, Saigon to Hongkong, 14½ cents per picul.  
Tritos—German steamer, 1,341 tons, Bangkok to Hongkong, 27 and 22 cents per picul.  
Holstein—German steamer, 1,103 tons, monthly, 10 months, \$6,000 per month.  
Decima—German steamer, 1,145 tons, monthly, 4 months, \$6,000 per month.  
On Sang—British steamer, 1,787 tons, hence to San Francisco and back, 10s. per gross register ton.  
Nanyang—German steamer, 982 tons, monthly, 12 months, \$5.25 per month.  
Tritos—German steamer, 1,341 tons, monthly, 12 months, \$6,250 per month.

## VESSELS ON THE BERTH.

For LONDON.—Coromandel (str.), Oansa (str.), Candia (str.), Calchas (str.), Orestes (str.), Java (str.), Kawachi Maur. (str.), Hector (str.).  
For BREMEN.—Bayern (str.).  
For MARSEILLES.—Tamba Maru (str.), Kawachi Maru (str.), Laos (str.), Candia (str.), Oansa (str.).  
For HAVRE AND HAMBURG.—Bamberg (str.), Heidelberg (str.), Savioia (str.), Sideria (str.), Andalusia (str.).



For SAN FRANCISCO.—*Onsang* (str.), *Nippo Maru* (str.).  
 For PHILADELPHIA AND NEW YORK.—*St. Mark* (str.).  
 For SAN DIEGO VIA HANGHAI.—*Thyra* (str.).  
 For VANCOUVER.—*Empress of China* (str.).  
 For VICTORIA, B.C., VIA SHANGHAI.—*City of Dublin* (str.).  
 For PORTLAND, O.—*Abergeldie* (str.).  
 For NEW YORK.—*Argyll* (str.).  
 For AUSTRALIA.—*Yawata Maru* (str.), *Easernt* (str.).  
 For VICTORIA, B. C. AND SEATTLE.—*Kinsai Maru* (str.).

## SHIPPING.

## ARRIVALS AND DEPARTURES SINCE LAST MAIL.

## HONGKONG.

October—

## ARRIVALS.

6. Kaongwai, British str., from Bangkok.
7. Kiangnan, Chinese str., from Chefoo.
7. Loongmoon, German str., from Canton.
7. Clara, German str., from Haiphong.
7. Pingsuey, British str., from Amoy.
7. Onsang, British str., from Saigon.
7. Nanchang, British str., from Canton.
7. Haiching, British str., from Coast Ports.
7. Taisang, British str., from Shanghai.
7. Princeton, Amr. g-bt., from Canton.
7. Manual Llaguno, Amr. sh., from N. York.
8. Breconshire, British str., from Colombo.
8. Haimun, British str., from Tamsui.
8. Hong Leong, British str., from Singapore.
8. Petrarch, German str., from Samarang.
8. Shanghai, British str., from London.
8. Gilo, German bark, from New York.
8. Germania, German str., from Swatow.
8. Stanfield, British bark, from Rajang.
9. Hohenzollern, German str., from Japan.
9. Taifu, German str., from Saigon.
9. Kinkiang, British str., from Wuhu.
9. Sachsen, German str., from Shanghai.
9. State of Maine, Amr. ship, from N. York.
10. Anping, Chinese str., from Shanghai.
10. Rosetta, British str., from Yokohama.
10. Oregon, Amr. battleship, from Manila.
10. Marie Valerie, Austrian str., from Kobe.
10. Nippon Maru, Jap. str., from S. Francisco.
11. Formosa, British str., from Tamsui.
11. Maidzuru Maru, Jap. str., from Amoy.
11. Taksang, British str., from Chinkiang.
12. Pakshan, British str., from Saigon.
12. Taisang, British str., from Canton.
12. Pakhoi, British str., from Canton.
12. Phra Nang, British str., from Bangkok.
12. Sandakan, British str., from Sandakan.
12. Sanuki Maru, Jap. str., from Singapore.
12. Thyra, Norwegian str., from Moji.
12. Coromandel, British str., from Shanghai.
12. Arratoon Apear, Brit. str., from Calcutta.
12. Cheang Hook Kian, Brit. str., from S'pore.
13. Athenian, British str., from Manila.
13. Loosok, British str., from Bangkok.
13. Haitan, British str., from Coast Ports.
13. Daphne, German str., from Moji.
13. Sydney, French str., from Marseilles.
13. Hermione, British cruiser, from Amoy.
13. Pascal, French cruiser, from Shanghai.
13. Hinsang, British str., from Cheribon.
13. Dr. Hans Jurg Kier, Norw. str., from Yokohama.
13. Conch, British str., from Singapore.
13. Lyeemoon, German str., from Shanghai.
13. Venus, American str., from Manila.
13. Endymion, British cruiser, from Manila.
13. Chusan, British str., from Bombay.

October—

## DEPARTURES.

7. Salazie, French str., for Europe.
7. Tientsin, British str., for Shanghai.
7. St. David, Amr. ship, for New York.
7. Pakhoi, British str., for Canton.
7. Hupeh, British str., for Amoy.
7. Malaya, British str., for Bangkok.
7. Hector, British str., for Shanghai.
7. Hailong, British str., for Swatow.
7. Salvadora, Amr. str., for Amoy.
7. Monmouthshire, British str., for Portland.
7. Chelydra, French str., for Calcutta.
7. Taisang, British str., for Canton.
7. Undaunted, British cruiser, for Manila.
7. Wyfield, British str., for San Francisco.
8. Tamsui Maru, Jap. str., for Swatow.
8. Java, Austrian str., for Batavia.
8. Chowtai, British str., for Bangkok.
8. Hanoi, French str., for Hoihow.
8. Gov. Robie, Amr. ship, for New York.
8. Benlarig, British str., for Nagasaki.

8. Clara, French str., for Haiphong.
9. Loongmoon, German str., for Shanghai.
9. Glenshiel, British str., for Shanghai.
10. Doric, British str., for San Francisco.
10. Decima, German str., for Yokohama.
10. Kinkiang, British str., for Canton.
10. Haiching, British str., for Swatow.
10. Hong Leong, British str., for Amoy.
10. Shanghai, British str., for Shanghai.
11. Anping, Chinese str., for Canton.
11. Prosper, Norw. str., for Hongay.
11. Kiangpak, Chinese str., for Shanghai.
11. Rattler, British g-bt., for Singapore.
11. Sachsen, German str., for Europe.
11. Valkyrien, British bark, for Rajang.
11. Fausang, British str., for Swatow.
11. Kiangnan, Chinese str., for Oturu.
11. Sungkiang, British str., for Manila.
11. Pingsuey, British str., for New York.
11. Germania, German str., for Kobe.
12. Hue, French str., for Haiphong.
12. Haimun, British str., for Swatow.
12. Nanchang, British str., for Tientsin.
12. Formosa, British str., for Tamsui.
12. Suevia, German str., for Kiaochau.
12. Taksang, British str., for Canton.
12. Princeton, Amr. g-bt., for Manila.
13. Taisang, British str., for Samarang.
13. Diamante, British str., for Manila.
13. Taisang, British str., for Shanghai.
13. Marie Valerie, Austrian str., for Trieste.

## PASSENGER LIST.

## ARRIVED.

Per *Diamante*, from Manila, Messrs. W. E. Schiele and P. Deronzier, Sergeant Glassbrook, Sergeant Murison, Mr. H. Flurez, Lieut. L. H. Everhart, Dr. Franklin, Dr. Apple, Mr. and Mrs. James Lee, Mrs. Ida Gold, Mr. Pablo Schmidt, Mr. and Mrs. James, Mr. and Mrs. Hill, Messrs. K. Otsaka, E. Stoffer, Jacob Nafataly, and Joseph Rothman.

Per *Salazie*, for Hongkong, from Yokohama, Mr. and Mrs. Seaton, Messrs. Julien, Ybara, Ponce, Hadley, Isoha, and Stapleton; from Shanghai, Mr. and Mrs. Cunningham and child, Messrs. J. Thomas (2), Kinnean, Kalm, Fraser, Mrs. Joseph and infant, Mr. and Mrs. Curosson, Messrs. Kars Horamis and Bernard; for Singapore, from Yokohama, Mr. Shibuya, Mrs. Kagashi, Messrs. Takasashi, and Stankoff; for Port Said, from Shanghai, Mr. Benzakin; for Marseilles, from Yokohama, Messrs. Deslongchamps and Tanimoto; from Shanghai, Miss Boisnard, Mr. and Mrs. Lombard, Messrs. Zonukivitch, Pini, Saglaise, Abens, and Pohard.

Per *Taisang*, from Shanghai, Messrs. Jones and Remedios.

Per *Haiching*, from East Coast, Messrs. Blum, Worrall, and 250 Chinese.

Per *Haimun*, from Tamsui, &c., Mr. and Mrs. Miller.

Per *Shanghai*, for Hongkong, from London, Messrs. H. S. Vaughan and J. S. Massay, and Lieut. W. Vyryan; for Shanghai, from London, Miss W. A. Mitchell, Messrs. W. R. Parkin and B. Hackett; from Penang, Capt. Johnson.

Per *Hohenzollern*, from Yokohama, Mr. and Mrs. Read, 2 children and nurse, Miss M. Ogaki, Mr. W. Smith, Mr. H. Ziegler, Mr. W. Ledder, Mr. M. Vetterich, Mr. C. Niemeyer, Mr. L. Suielter, Mr. J. B. Barrett, Mr. O. Jurgens, Mr. T. C. Huisaker, Mr. G. Sammariva, Miss M. Sammariva and Mr. J. Campbell.

Per *Sachsen*, from Shanghai, Mrs. Prentis, Miss Law, Mr. Collin Buchanan, Mr. and Mrs. H. Crambie, Messrs. Wm. D. Wheelright, Pon Ta Ling, Bondfield, W. J. Vine, and Mrs. W. Lorms.

Per *Rosetta*, from Yokohama, Miss Wilson, Messrs. E. T. Thomas, E. J. Potter, Tatham, R. E. Giel, Major Coates, Lieut. Lee, Lieut. Rotherham, S. A. Seth, Miss Seth, Miss P. Seth, Messrs. Painter and Brissons, Major Have, Messrs. Slade and Loureco, Mrs. Che San, Mr. Wong Sheng Hang, and Mr. Cheng Heng Cho.

Per *Marie Valerie*, from Kobe, Mr. A. Catinich.

Per *Nippon Maru*, from San Francisco, Messrs. F. Marsland and K. Ota, Misses J. Clemmens, M. Stetson, A. de Long, M. Hyde, Mrs. J. F. Smith, Master Smith, Miss Richardson, Mrs. L. V. Musso, Dr. H. H. Hass, U.S.N., Mr. and Mrs. Chas. F. Richardson, Mr. F.

Wengel, Mrs. K. L. Piver, Miss Piver, Miss Elise Thoms, Mr. and Mrs. R. S. Thoms, Mr. K. Hirota, Mrs. Hirota, Mr. M. Kutschera, Mrs. E. Renjes, Miss Elsie Renjes, Mr. Wm. Haywood, Mrs. Haywood, Master Haywood, Miss Doris Haywood, Messrs. C. Pape, G. Hayakawa, and Dr. Gertrude Halley.

Per *Phra Nang*, from Bangkok, &c., Mr. Ballatine, Mrs. and Miss Loyd.

Per *Sandakan*, from Sandakan, Mrs. Breibag, and Mr. Gustav Breibenbach.

Per *Sanuki Maru*, from Singapore, Major and Mrs. Higg, Mr. J. V. Dodd, Mrs. Blanco, Mr. and Mrs. Nonweiler, Mrs. McIlraik, Miss Corfield, and Mr. K. Kagami.

Per *Arratoon Apear*, from Calcutta, &c., Mr. Moore.

Per *Coromandel*, from Shanghai, for London, Sgt. T. Johnson, Cpl. W. Watts, Cpl. J. Flynn, Spr. M. Jackson, Messrs. B. Agnew, A. M. Wilson, A. Robertson, Eu Hon, and Lin Poo; for Marseilles, Messrs. R. Yamada and K. Koga; for Colombo, Mr. F. L. Orman; for Hongkong, Messrs. L. A. Levy, Irvin Turner, R. L. Warren, Father de Gabrient, Messrs. E. Dadre, H. Dufour, J. Grant, Sgt. G. Sutherland, and Rev. W. Gore Brown.

## DEPARTED.

Per *Salazie*, from Hongkong, for Saigon, Messrs. Gabriel, Thiemonge, de Bourdonnel and Haupt, Sister Etienne and Philomene; for Singapore, Mrs. F. Kuperman, Messrs. H. Wendrath, J. J. Manual, A. S. Tidwell, and A. Freimann; for Marseilles, Lieut. J. Jardin, Capt. and Mrs. J. C. Bello, Misses A. and H. Bello, Messrs. S. Bello, A. A. dos Santos, Major W. R. Little, Messrs. T. Whitehead, Th. Nebinger, and J. da Silva; from Yokohama, for Singapore, Mr. Shibuya, Mrs. Nagashi, Mrs. Takashi, and Mr. Stankoff; for Marseilles, Messrs. Delongchamps and Tanimoto; from Shanghai, for Marseilles, Miss Boisnard, Mr. and Mrs. Lombard, Messrs. Zonukivitch, Pini, Saglaise, Abens, and Pohard; for Port Said, Mr. Benzakin.

Per *Sachsen*, from Yokohama, for Genoa, Messrs. S. Mezobuchi, J. Shemoda, and M. Wogehara; for Southampton, Mr. and Mrs. Read and 2 children, Miss M. Ozaki, and Mr. W. Smith; for London, Mr. H. Ziegler; for Bremen, Messrs. W. Ledder, M. Vetterich, C. Niemeyer, and Th. B. Schmidt; from Kobe, for Southampton, Mr. J. B. Barrett; from Nagasaki, for Genoa, Mr. G. Sammariva and Miss Sammariva; for London, Mr. J. Campbell; from Shanghai, for Colombo, Mr. and Mrs. Dyer; for Genoa, Mr. and Mrs. O. Anz, Mr. and Mrs. Basse, Mrs. Bonfield, Messrs. Franzoni, C. de Doss, H. Schwazenberg, W. J. King, Sisters Alma and Rosati; for Southampton, Mr. G. S. M. Wyshall; for London, Mrs. Norman, Mr. P. Y. Gillings, Mrs. Duly, Miss Crocker, Mrs. Barnett, Messrs. C. J. Payn, Ivansoon, and Hornsby; for Antwerp, Mr. R. Pirmez; for Bremen, Messrs. Zitelmann, Eu Hu Chung, Cheng Shih Yung Hu, Tang Te-hsuan, C. Muller, and 3 German soldiers; for Hamburg, Mr. E. Magnus, Mr. and Mrs. C. T. Hill, Mr. and Mrs. N. Keelgreen, and Mr. K. E. Landgreen; from Hongkong, for Singapore, Mr. and Mrs. G. H. Schwalm, and Mr. E. Nordheim; for Colombo, Mr. and Mrs. C. Weinberg, Miss Weinberg, and Mr. M. Lehmann; for Port Said, Mr. and Mrs. Holzberg; for Southampton, Mrs. Retallick; for Bremen, Mr. H. Huchting; from Manila for Genoa, Mr. P. Schmidt.

Per *Doric*, for Shanghai, H.E. E. H. Conger, U.S. Minister, Mr. F. D. Cheshire, Mrs. N. E. Irwin, Messrs. W. E. Shiele, H. Burton, T. Christiani, A. Ziekormann, Lieut. N. E. Irwin, Messrs. E. A. Hardon, Ellis Kelly, Sin Yak Fan, Master Alfred Fan, and Mrs. Sin Tak Fan; for Nagasaki, Messrs. W. Dunlop and Gomez; for Kobe, Mr. Walter H. Howard; for Yokohama, Lieut. L. H. Everhard, Miss L. H. Lewers, Miss McIntyre, and Mr. Fuchs; for Honolulu, Messrs. Hsui York Kai, Wong Tin Chong, Mrs. Loo Chong She, Mr. Lee Choo, Mrs. Chang Shee, Mrs. Leong Hung Hin, Mr. Lin Coon Chuck; for San Francisco, Dr. B. Apple, Mr. and Mrs. J. M. James, Messrs. Arthur Chubb and J. C. Pace, Mrs. Jung Sun Ying and infant, and Dr. M. W. Franklin.